

Church - God's Idea!

The Army of the Lord



IN - helping a sense of belonging...

A helpful icebreaker: What have you had to fight for in your life which you have felt was important! What was the outcome?

UP - hearing from God and growing...

Recap on the teaching.

This is a challenging subject which many find it difficult to engage with.

It raises connections with OT warfare issues which we struggle to understand.

It can be a little scary. Refer back to the Questions Series and the question of Evil!

Some discussion pointers:

- What are we fighting for as the church?
- What weapons do we have and use?
- What would we see as a victory?
- Where does this fit/figure in our normal pattern of church life?
- How would you help someone new to faith comprehend this?

Take some time to pray about the current battle you feel the church you are part of is facing!

OUT - impacting others...

Take some time to talk in two's about your friend and family. The bible says that the God of

this world has blinded the mind of unbelievers. Are any of them blind to the good news. How do you pray for a breakthrough?

Pray for the breakthrough!

BIBLE READING:

Ephesians 6:10-18 New International Version (NIV)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

**LIFEgroup
Notes**