

3. Use Our _____

- The Gospel is our _____. Put it on.

When the devil tempts, we put on the Gospel to remind us of God's _____ and Christ's death for sin's passing pleasures.

When the devil accuses, we "put on the Gospel" to remind us of God's _____ and that Christ has fully and finally paid for and forgiven our sins.

- The Lord is our STRENGTH. Run to him.

TAKE A NEXT STEP

- This week, talk to and pray with a friend or someone in your family about your spiritual battle and where you feel it most in your life right now. Do you most often battle temptation or accusation? How can you begin to "put on the Gospel" in your spiritual battle?
- Grab and read "Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices" by Thomas Brooks. (Kindle version is just \$1!)

NEXT WEEK: Our Spiritual Armor / *Ephesians 6:13-20*

As we near the end of the book of Ephesians, Paul reminds us of a crucial truth we often forget: We are in an ongoing spiritual battle. Ephesians 6:10-20 prepares us for the fight so that we might STAND together in Christ's victory.

In order to STAND, 3 things are necessary:

1. Know the _____

- It's a fight to _____ the Gospel.
- It's a fight to _____ the Gospel.
- It's a fight to stay _____.
- It's a fight to _____, _____ and _____ in our church and families.

2. Recognize the _____

- The devil opposes God's _____ and _____.
- The devil is _____. The devil is _____.
- The devil is a _____.

_____ lies: he entices us with pleasure and causes us to forget God's holiness.

_____ lies: he crushes us with guilt and causes us to question God's love.

Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

During the COVID-19 crisis our groups are meeting live and virtually using Zoom and other online platforms.

CONNECT *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

What are you doing for Thanksgiving this year and how might things be different in light of COVID?

DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's word together)*

1. Read Ephesians 6:10-20. How did you "come under" God's Word in the text and message this week? How did God speak to you or challenge you?
2. What are the two errors we can fall into when thinking about the devil? Which of these errors do you tend towards and why?
3. Do you see and think about the Christian life as a fight? Why or why not?

4. To which lying scheme of the devil are you most susceptible: temptation or accusation? Do you tend to minimize God's holiness (temptation) or love (accusation)?
5. What is the armor of God and what does it practically mean to put it on?
6. Growth Group as a FAMILY: The spiritual battle is a shared battle, but we often fight it alone. What are practical ways we can fight it together?
7. Growth Group as SERVANT/MISSIONARY: It's easy to frame the battle as us against the unbelieving world, but that's not the thrust of Ephesians 6:10-20 at all. In fact, Paul, in verse 18 is eager to share the Gospel with the unbelieving world. Who do we tend vilify and make our enemies? How does our spiritual battle relate to our spiritual mission?

PRAY

- Pray for those suffering through this Covid-19 pandemic and pray for it to end soon.
- Pray for one another that you might know the fight, recognize the enemy and use our help.
- Pray for one another and your own personal spiritual battles. Share needs and pray for one another. Seek the Lord's strength and pray the Gospel over one another.