



Discussion Guide

Custom Fit Wk 2

8/13/2023

Update Your Outfit

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Main Idea

We have access to something that we often overlook. It is an awareness of an armor that God makes available to us. Not a physical armor, but a spiritual armor. Paul uses a symbol of oppression, to breathe the hope of liberation.

1 Peter 5:6-9 (NIV)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because He cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Ephesians 6:10-17 (NIV)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor 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 armor 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.

A Truth That Transcends

The word transcend means “be or go beyond the range or limits of something.” That is what truth does. It goes beyond trends, it goes beyond time and space. Truth is Solid. And as believers, we are called to pursue truth.

What are the lies about yourself, or your life, that the enemy is whispering in your ear?

Read: Romans 8:31-39

A Righteousness That’s Received

To be righteous is to be obedient to God’s commandments, and live in a way that is honorable to Him. And for the believer, righteousness is required. Just like a breastplate, righteousness guards your heart.

What relationships or activities may be exposing your heart to danger?

Read: 2 Corinthians 6:14, Proverbs 4:20-27

The Armor Is Accessible

When you put on the armor, you’re not putting on a mindset, or a positive mentality. You’re not equipping yourself to make good decisions for the day. When you put on the armor of God, you’re putting on JESUS and the people around you see Jesus in you.

In what way are you accessing the belt of truth and the breastplate of righteousness?

Read: John 14:6, Galatians 2:20

SUMMARY

We all need to stay alert and be ready for anything. Our enemy is real and he wants nothing more than to ruin our lives. All the more reason why we need to be equipped with the armor of God. We need to take advantage of all we have access to in order to stand our ground and overcome when that day of evil comes.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Check out some studies on the armor of God on RightNow Media. If you do not yet have a membership, join for free [HERE](#).
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/hopecitytx>
2. Next week is our Fall Group's Launch! Why not lead your very own group? You can get more information [HERE](#). <https://hopecity.com/lead-a-group/>
3. Continue with us for 21 Days of Prayer and fasting through August 26. We hope to see you for our second Saturday morning prayer (9am) at all of our campuses on August 19.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Game: Would You Rather

Materials You Need

Strips of paper , Markers , A bowl

As far as prep goes, if you want to use your materials, write down scenarios on each strip of paper. These scenarios will be the "would you rather" questions. They can range from simple to difficult.

Good examples include:

Live through famine or live through the 10 plagues?

Live on the Ark or in an isolated room for the same duration?

Be baptized by John or hear Paul speak of Jesus?

Spend Christmas Eve serving the homeless or donate your Christmas money?

Go on a mission trip or help your community locally?

You could have people choose their own questions, but that may feel like too much pressure. Prepping questions ahead of time is helpful.

How to Play

When you're ready for the faith-based ice breaker games to start, have a volunteer pick a slip from the bowl and read it aloud. They should be the first person to answer the question. They can choose to give their reasoning or not.

Then, everyone else will also give their answer. This is a great way to generate discussion and even friendly debates. Remember, there are no wrong answers!