

# LG | Leader

[Ephesians 6:14-17]

## WARM-UP (5 mins)

Let's take a moment to still our minds and go to the Lord in prayer.

- How was your week? How is your walk with the Lord?
- When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what did you learn?

## ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. The armor of God are metaphors for the spiritual resources given to us in Christ. From memory what are each of the resources?

Belt - Truth

Breastplate - Righteousness

Shoes - Gospel

Shield - Faith

Helmet - Salvation

Sword - Spirit

2. Why should this list of spiritual resources be memorized?

We are always "at war" with the enemy and this armor is "of God." Therefore, just like any good soldier, we are to be prepared and alert to wage war against spiritual adversaries. Paul is not making a recommendation here; he is preparing us for warfare.

3. If we are in Christ, we are "clothed" in His righteousness. How are we then to "put on" the breastplate of righteousness?

Christ righteousness granted to us through faith is an imputed righteousness. In other words, Christ takes our sin and give us His righteousness in a spectacular act of grace. In this text, however, Paul is speaking of a practical righteousness—right living, as depicted earlier in Ephesians. He is telling us to "put on the new self"—put on the virtues of our Messiah.

4. Is Paul communicating that all this armor is necessary or just some? Is there room to be a "spiritual staker," just wearing your helmet of salvation and nothing else?!

Paul tells us to take up the whole armor of God. We are to reflect the whole character of Christ.

5. Out of all this armor, where is your weak point? Where are you most exposed spiritually?  
How can you eliminate this weakness?

[Dialogue]

6. As Christians, does this armor mean that we are to attack people with it? Are we to attack people with the gospel? What is this armor actually used for?

It is for us to stand firm against our spiritual adversaries and to offer life (not death) to those around us. We offer life with the spirit of truth, just as our Savior did for us.

## **PRAY (10 mins)**

**Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.**

Commentary References:

- Crossway ESV Study Bible

- Merida, Tony. *Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary: Exalting Jesus in Ephesians*. B&H Publishing Group; Nashville, Tennessee, 2014.