BURN OUR HEARTS · STUDY GUIDE

How to Fight Spiritual Battles You Can't See

On the sermon **"How to Fight Spiritual Battles You Can't See"** by **Pastor Jonathan Pokluda**, Lakepointe Church · October 4, 2026 · Ephesians 6:10-18

EPHESIANS 6:10-18 (ESV)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. *(vv. 13-18 in your Bible)*

MAIN IDEA

"You don't have to be afraid. You just have to live as a true follower of Jesus Christ."

MAJOR POINTS in the order preached

1. **Don't pretend.** (Acts 19:13-16) *"They didn't know Jesus. You know who knew Jesus? The demon did."*
2. **The fight is real.** (6:12) *"Your enemy is not your neighbor … Your enemy is demons."* Aware, not afraid (1 John 4:4).
3. **Ready for WARFARE.** (6:13-18) *"The way you fight the lies is with the truth."* Seven marks of a real follower of Jesus, spelling WARFARE:
   - **W** **Walking in truth** (v. 14)
   - **A** **Acting in righteousness** (v. 14)
   - **R** **Ready with the gospel** (v. 15)
   - **F** **Firm in faith** (v. 16)
   - **A** **Aware of your salvation** (v. 17)
   - **R** **Responding with the Word** (v. 17)
   - **E** **Engaged in prayer** (v. 18)
4. **Use the extinguisher.** (6:16) *"I was hoping I'd never have to use it. I think that's us in faith."*

KEY INSIGHTS our observations, not from the sermon

- **The strength is His.** Verse 10 does not say "be strong"; it says "be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might." We stand in borrowed strength.
- **It was God's armor first.** The Lord "put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head" (Isaiah 59:17; see 11:5; 52:7). To put on the armor is to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14).

DIGGING DEEPER the battle in the big story of Scripture

- **Creation and fall.** God made humanity to rule His world under Him (Genesis 1:28), but the serpent's first weapon was a lie: "Did God actually say …?" (Genesis 3:1). Even then God promised an offspring who "shall bruise your head" (Genesis 3:15).
- **Promise.** "The LORD is a man of war" (Exodus 15:3). David knew "the battle is the LORD's" (1 Samuel 17:47), and Isaiah saw the Lord and His Messiah wearing this very armor (Isaiah 59:17; 11:5).
- **Fulfillment.** Jesus answered Satan with Scripture, "It is written" (Luke 4:4), and at the cross He "disarmed the rulers and authorities … by triumphing over them" (Colossians 2:15).
- **New creation.** "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet" (Romans 16:20), and the devil will be thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10). We stand in a war already won.

DISCUSS

1. Why didn't using Jesus' name protect the sons of Sceva (Acts 19:13-16)? What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing Him?
2. Pastor Pokluda asked, from 1 to 10, how certain you are of heaven. Read 1 John 5:13. Where does that certainty rest?
3. "The heart wants what it's fed." What have you been feeding your heart, and which WARFARE mark is weakest in you right now?
4. What lie do you hear most often? Which verse will you answer it with this week?

THIS WEEK

Name the lie you hear most. Write down one verse that answers it, memorize it, and say it out loud every time the lie shows up. Then ask one believer at your church to pray with you about it.

PRAYER

Father, we cannot out-muscle the enemy, but You have already won. Thank You that Jesus disarmed the powers at the cross. Clothe us with Christ. Teach us to walk in truth, to answer every lie with Your Word, and to pray at all times for one another. Make us real followers of Jesus, not pretenders, and keep us standing firm. In Jesus' name, amen.

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