

I. We must realize that we are engaged in a spiritual battle

A. The devil is our real and powerful enemy

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)

B. The devil has deceptive and evil plans

C. The devil has an evil spiritual army assisting him

D. The devil and his forces are fighting against us

“Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows his time is short.” (Revelation 12:12)

“Do not be afraid or dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but Gods.” (2 Chronicles 20:15)

II. We are called to fight in this battle

*Picture of soldier charging into battle

A. We fight by taking our stand against the devil

“Resist the devil and he will flee.” (James 4:7)

B. We stand in the strength of the Lord

“The Lord is my strength.” (Exodus 15:2)

C. We fight with God’s mighty power

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine according to his power that is at work within us.” (Ephesians 3:20)

D. We fight by putting on the armor of God

*Picture of girl in armor

III. We are equipped by God to be victorious in this battle

*Picture of soldier with scripture

A. We are armed with the truth of God

B. We are secure in our righteousness in Christ

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

C. We are established in the gospel of peace

D. We are shielded by our faith in God

*Picture of soldier protected by the shield

E. We are confident in our salvation

F. We are equipped with the powerful word of God

“The word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)