

### OPEN

- *What are you thankful for? Spend some time in prayer giving God thanks as you begin.*
- *What were some of your (or your kids) favorite dress-up costumes?*

### STUDY

This session begins a two-part study on Ephesians 6:10-18 and the armor of God. Many different interpretations of the armor have been given, but here's what's most important: *The Apostle Paul is describing the armor which enables us to stand against evil's attacks on our life.*

#### Read: Ephesians 6:10-13

- *What have you been struggling with lately? Where do you need to be "strong in the Lord and in His mighty power?"*

Let's explore how God equips and enables us to face the struggle of evil in our lives and world:

#### Read: Ephesians 6:14-16

#### 1) Belt of Truth

The belt referred to here was a broad belt made of leather or other material that provided support and gave the soldier a place to attach other pieces of equipment. It circled the soldier just as God's truth surrounds the believer.

- *How does this piece of God's armor help you stand against Satan and evil?*

#### 2) Breastplate of Righteousness

The armor mentioned here covered the throat, heart, and lungs. It protected the vital organs.

- *How does this piece of God's armor help you stand against Satan and evil?*

#### 3) Shoes of Peace

The soldier's shoes (sandals) often had spikes on the bottom to provide stable footing and better mobility.

- *How does this piece of God's armor help you stand against Satan and evil?*

#### 4) Shield of Faith

The soldier's shield was a large rectangular piece of wood that was covered with canvas or animal hide. The shield was often dipped in water prior to battle to extinguish flaming arrows.

- *How does this piece of God's armor help you stand against Satan and evil?*
- *What evidences of the spiritual battle do you see in your life? In the church? In your small group?*
- *How can you specifically make use of (apply) these pieces of God's armor in your life today?*
- *Close in a time of prayer for each other to stand against Satan and spiritual battles.*

### Standing Against Satan (Part 1)

**November 22—28**

*"The serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made." (Genesis 3:1)*

