



SDG Discussion Guide

Ephesians 6:10-18

July 22, 2018

For starters:

What is the best piece of clothing you have had for years and can't seem to discard?

What were some of your (or your kids) favorite dress-up costumes or outfits?
Why those?

What are you looking forward to in August?

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.)

As you can, read aloud the passages in your group. Provided you can, read them aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the ESV after first reading from the NIV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these. What else did you notice? Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. Where do you believe you see the devil's schemes playing out today?
2. What makes up the "armor of God" (vv 14-17)? Which parts are defensive weapons? Offensive?
3. In what ways does the armor enable us to stand against evil? What piece of armor do you need most in your life right now?
4. What have you been struggling against lately? How does this passage help equip you?
5. If you had to compare your spiritual armor to this list, where are you strong? Weak? What do you need to do to prepare for battle? What is at stake if you don't?
6. What evidence of the battle do you believe you see in your life? Your church? Your community? Your nation? The world? What would it mean "to stand" in these particular "battlefields"?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw near to you anew in this prayer time. Pause, wait and expect his presence. Ask God to continue to speak to you from his word in this passage. Ask him for his insight and courage to help you help others and yourself in current circumstances. Go forth this week with a renewed vision for the spiritual fight and your role in it. And remember, "keep on praying for all the saints" - for we are all in it together.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).