

# Small Groups

## Leader Conversation Guide – Understanding Spiritual Warfare

### Main Idea

This week Pastor Chris helped us understand spiritual warfare in Part 4 of our series, “You Asked for It.” Spiritual warfare is the fight God calls us to in Scripture to stand against evil forces of darkness. We have a real enemy who wants nothing more than to steal, kill, and destroy us. When we believe the enemy’s lies, we empower him, and are bound by his strongholds. The goals of his lies are to steal our focus, cause us to feel controlled, consume our emotional energy, distract us from our purpose, and ultimately rob us of the life God intended for us. Today, let’s stand firm against the evil one and live victoriously in Christ!

### Make It Practical

#### Three Realities We Need to Believe

- The devil is real.
- The devil’s goal is to destroy us.
- The devil responds to a higher authority.

#### Three Weapons God Has Given Us to Use

- The Name of Jesus. The Name of Jesus has authority over everything on Heaven and Earth!
- The Blood of Jesus. Sin gives the enemy power, but Jesus paid for our sins!
- The Word of God. We can replace the enemy’s lies with the truths found in God’s Word!

#### Three Things to Do Every Day

- Commit yourself to God. It’s your relationship with God that gives you authority over the enemy.
- Close any open doors. Satan gains access into our lives by our disobedience and sin.
- Confront the enemy in prayer.

**“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil**

**in the heavenly realms. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.”**

**Ephesians 6:1-12**

### **Talk about It**

1. What lies of the enemy have you believed? As a group, discuss some of these lies, then find scripture in God's Word to replace the lie with His truth.
2. Discuss open doors that may not seem like a trap from the enemy on the surface but may need to be brought to light. Encourage each other to close these doors.
3. Read Ephesians 6:1-17 out loud together as a group, then commit to putting the armor of God on every day to stand firm against the enemy!

**“When we believe a lie, we empower the liar.”**

### **Prayer**

Jesus, we thank You for giving us the power to defeat the enemy with Your Name, and the blood You shed for us on the cross. Today we take captive any lie of the enemy, say no to strongholds in our lives, and yes to You and the plans You have for us. Satan, you are a liar! Today we stand firm and declare that you have no authority over us, in the mighty name of Jesus! Amen!

### **Leader Tips**

The enemy does not like that we are discussing spiritual warfare. PRAY FIRST as you prepare for today's meeting. Go into today's meeting with boldness and stand firm against the enemy with your group!