

THE BATTLE

The Fight Of Your Life

4 Necessary Battle Strategies

1. Be strong in the LORD

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (NIV84)

Ephesians 1:19-20 And his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. (NIV84)

2. Put on your battle gear

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (NIV84)

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. (NIV84)

3. Stand against the devil's schemes

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (NIV84)

2 Corinthians 2:11 In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. (NIV84)

1. He blinds the minds of unbelievers

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (NIV84)

Ephesians 2:1-2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. (NIV84)

2. He is a deceiver

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. ¹⁵ It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve. (NIV84)

3. He destroys relationships

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven — if there was anything to forgive — I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. (NIV84)

4. He hinders ministry from happening

1 Thessalonians 2:17-18 But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. ¹⁸ For we wanted to come to you — certainly I, Paul, did, again and again — but Satan stopped us. (NIV84)

5. He sends false teachers

1 Timothy 4:1-2 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. (NIV84)

6. He persecutes Christians

Revelation 2:10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. (NIV84)

4. Realize your battle is against the unseen world

Ephesians 6:12-13 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. ¹³ 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. (NIV84)

Community Group Questions

1. What does it mean to be strong in the Lord? Where does your strength come from?
2. How do we put on the full armor of God?
3. How do we understand the enemy's schemes? How does the enemy blind the eyes of the unbeliever? In what ways has the enemy deceived you? What relationships have been destroyed in your life because of unforgiveness? How have you been persecuted because of your faith in Jesus Christ?
4. Read Ephesians 6:12-13 Who is our battle against? What are some the battles you are facing? How do we underestimate Satan?