

# THE BATTLE

## *The Belt Of Truth*

John 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. (NKJV)

Ephesians 6:10-14 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place. (NIV84)

### **1. The Belt of Truth is vitally important**

John 8:32 “Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (NIV84)

### **2. The Belt of Truth helps stand against the devil's lies**

John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (NIV84)

Revelation 12:7-9 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. <sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. <sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down — that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. (NIV84)

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

## **4 Lies of the Enemy**

- 1. God wants you to be *happy*.**
- 2. Everyone is doing it, so it must be okay.**
- 3. Live by logic—do what’s best for you.**
- 4. The enemy makes the wrong appear right—it’s all about deception.**

### **3. The Belt of Truth prepares you for the battle**

1 Thessalonians 5:6 So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. (NIV84)

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.<sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (NIV84)

1 Peter 5:8 Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you napping. (The Message)

Ephesians 4:27 And do not give the devil a foothold. (NIV84)

### **Community Group Questions**

1. Why is it important for us to put on the full armor of God? What is the belt of truth? Why is it important for us to put on the belt of truth? How does knowing and living the truth set us apart from and help us live a life of victory?
2. How does putting on the belt of truth help us stand against the lies of the enemy? What are some of the major lies our spiritual enemy uses to try to steal, kill, and destroy us? How have you defeated the enemy's lies by putting on the belt of truth? Explain.
3. Why is it important for us to be prepared to battle against the enemy? What ways do Christians fall asleep and give the enemy a foothold in their life? How do we stay alert and ready to battle our spiritual enemy?