

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WINNING THE BATTLE OF PARENTHOOD Stand-Alone Sermon

ICEBREAKER: If you could establish one charitable organization, what would it be?

OVERVIEW: Parenthood is not easy; especially Christian parenthood. It is a fierce battle, and the stakes are high. Christian parents have a God-given objective, but our task is not without resistance. We have an enemy who also has an objective. The enemy is stronger, smarter, and more experienced than us. And he wins much more than he loses. But there is hope for Christian parents. The battle can be won. All we need to do is to learn how to put on the armor of God.

1. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. The title of the sermon is "Winning the Battle of Parenthood." What is the battle of parenthood?
3. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. Who is our enemy? What does the Bible teach about him?
4. What are some of the devil's schemes to prevent Christians from raising godly children?
5. Read Ephesians 6:14. The first piece of armor is the belt of truth. How do we put on the belt of truth? How does the belt of truth help us to be better parents?
6. The second piece of armor is the breastplate of righteousness. How do we put on the breastplate of righteousness? How does the breastplate of righteousness help us win the battle of parenthood?

7. Read Ephesians 6:15. The third piece of armor are the sandals of the gospel. How do we put on the sandals of the gospel, and how does this help us to reach our kids for Christ?
8. Read Ephesians 6:16. The fourth piece of armor is the shield of faith. How do we take up the shield of faith? How does the shield of faith help us to raise our kids?
9. What are some of the "flaming arrows" that the evil one uses to defeat us in our purpose of Biblical parenthood?
10. Read Ephesians 6:17. The fifth piece of armor is the helmet of salvation. How does the helmet of salvation help parents?
11. The sixth piece of armor is the sword of the Spirit – the word of God. How can parents take up the sword of the Spirit?
12. Read Ephesians 6:18. Winning the battle of parenthood is not possible without prayer. How should Christian parents use the weapon of prayer to defeat the enemy?

The Last Word: "It is said of some men that the more you know them the less you admire them, but the reverse is true of God's Word. Familiarity with the Word of God breeds affection, and affection seeks still greater familiarity." Charles Spurgeon