

# who needs church?

Week Three | Defeated People | 05.02-03.2020

**Grow Deep Conversation Questions:** Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

**Message Recap:** We may not realize it, but there is a battle happening all around us. And we have access to the armor of God to be equipped to fight the unseen battle.

## » Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
  - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
  - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
  - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

## » Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is an activity you need a lot of gear for? What items might seem unnecessary to someone who is new to the activity?
- Digging Deeper: What is something you've learned in life that has changed the way you live?

## » Observation | Read Ephesians 6:10-20 (12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

## » Key Principle | Seeing isn't always believing (12 minutes)

- Paul is finishing this letter with some important clarifications; what stands out to you the most?

## » Invisible Enemies | Reference Ephesians 6:10-12 (12 minutes)

- Why is it so difficult to look beyond discouraging visible realities to invisible battles?
- What does it mean that the battle has already been won? How can this be encouraging to you and those around you?

## » Spiritual Armor | Reference Ephesians 6:13-17 (12 minutes)

- How do you put on the armor of God in your life? What does that look like each day?
- What aspects of God's armor are you living without and how can you change that this week?

## » Bold Faith | Reference Ephesians 6:18-20 (12 minutes)

- In what ways are you feeling defeated today? How can Paul's words in Ephesians 6 encourage and strengthen you?
- How do the words you repeat about yourself in your head affect you? What could happen if you repeated new words of bold faith?

## » Next Steps and Prayer | (15 minutes)

- What would it look like for you to put on the Armor of God and engage in the battle around you?
- Honestly even the most positive of us have felt defeated, overwhelmed, discouraged, and exhausted sometime in the last few weeks. What are some ways to encourage people around you, your spouse, your family, your kids, anyone you come in contact with?
- Close by praying for each other to step out in bold faith and put on God's armor to fight in the battle around us right now.