

CrossWalk **notes**

Demonology 101

Guard Your Heart

October 24, 2021 / Dan Solofra

Do you understand how the devil works?

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11, NIV

Since the devil can't stand up to the Lord, he has to resort to to separate us from the Lord.

¹² 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. Ephesians 6:12, NIV

We think the powers of this world are the _____ to our problems, more often they are the _____.

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. Ephesians 6:13, NIV

When spiritual forces come against us, we can _____ with power that God supplies.

¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace**. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of **faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of **salvation** and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**. Ephesians 6:14-17, NIV

Our defensive and offensive arsenal include:

- _____ – as a defensive belt.
- _____ – as a breastplate.
- _____ – as cleats to keep us from slipping.
- _____ - as a shield.
- _____ – as a helmet.
- _____ – as a sword.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. Ephesians 6:18-20, NIV

Understand how the devil works, but also understand what works against him.

_____ in the Spirit:

- pray _____ with what the Spirit wants.
- pray for the spread of the _____.

MEMORY VERSE

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

My next step: I will be strong with God's strength. I put on the armor of God one piece at a time so that no matter what I face today, I know I will be safe.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

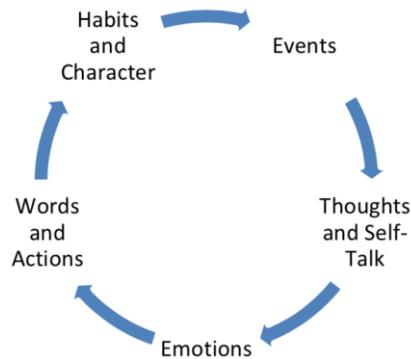
Impact Group Questions

Demonology 101 – Guard Your Heart

Getting Started – Since we are talking about temptation, what is your favorite/most tempting type of junk food to eat?

Going Back to Sunday

In Ephesians 6 the apostle Paul says that the devil schemes to get us to sin and to separate us from God. Considering the diagram below, imagine that you were a demon trying to get yourself or another person to sin. What are some schemes you would use to destroy relationships with people and/or God in a person's life.



Refresh Your Memory:

Ephesians

6:12

¹² 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.

Think for a moment about the suffering and death of Jesus. It was obviously physical and involved the authorities of the world. But in what way was it really more of a spiritual battle that he was fighting? How do we know that he was very aware of the spiritual battle?

Can you think of a spiritual battle that you are someone else is in? How might it only seem physical? Why is it important to recognize the spiritual part of it?

Read:

Ephesians 6:14-17

*¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace**. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of **faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of **salvation** and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**.*

Have each person in the group pick one of the weapons that is listed above. In your own words explain what the weapon is and how a person could use in a spiritual battle. (Note, some of these answers will sound similar because the concepts are similar. ex: the *truth* and the *word of God* are very close to the same thing.)

Doing Life Together

Ephesians

6:18-20

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Take a little bit longer to pray tonight. Consider including:

- Brothers and sisters in your group who aren't present.
- All those who serve as volunteers in our ministry at CrossWalk.
- All those who teach at CrossWalk in kids ministry, youth, and groups.
- Our staff to share the Word of God fearlessly.

Friendship:

Spend the final 10 to 15 minutes of group catching up with other group members. Take time to get to know those you don't know quite as well. Make sure to include everyone in the group.

Reminders:

Questions? Pastor Chris and Dan lead a Facebook and Instagram live event every Tuesday evening at 6 PM to answer any questions you might have from the message.