1. Launchers: Pick 1 - Connecting Through Reflection

- How aware are you of what the Bible calls spiritual?
- What comes to mind when you hear the question, "How goes the battle?"

2. Worship God – Pick 2 and Worship God for Victory in our Spiritual Warfare

Read any 2 of the passages then pray praising God for the call to the battle and the promise of His presence in the battle.

Ephesians 6:12 we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places

Colossians 1:10 walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 John 3:8 The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil... 4:4 he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Revelation 12:10–12 (ESV)

¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

3. Sermon Reflection: 2 Cor 10:3-5 Life in a Spiritual War Zone

A CONTEXT OF COMBAT

- Why does it matter that the realm in which we live is fallen?
- How have you been spiritually naïve to this presence darkness?
- What have been the consequences to your living in denial of our spiritual warfare?

THE DEFINITIVE VICTORY

- Why does it matter that Jesus has intervened?
- Why is victory sure?
- How does that impact your life, hopes, dreams and struggles?

WHAT IS OUR ROLE NOW?

- Now, in Christ, how are we engaged in the fight?
- What good is God accomplishing in this conflict we are in?
- What is your favorite part of the battle?

4. Kingdom Centered Prayer:

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

- 1. Worship the LORD, God Almighty, for His sovereign power over all creatures, even rebellious forces of spiritual darkness. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He infinitely surpasses all creatures and is in no way threatened or worried.
- 2. How have you lived rebelliously against your Maker and participated in the schemes of the evil one? Confess your folly and rebellion to Jesus, asking Him to pardon you and change your heart to be truly loyal.
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for the wonders of His saving love. Thank Him for bearing our punishment to free us from condemnation, and for breaking the stranglehold Satan had upon us so that we can be restored to the Father.
- 4. Who do you know that lives dominated by darkness? Pray for them, asking the Lord to have mercy upon them and free them by His redeeming love.
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and goodness. Pray for His transforming work to root out of you selfish pride and hatred and to grow you instead to be more and more in the likeness of Jesus.

5. Mission: Recognizing and Preparing for Spiritual Warfare

Our battle is NOT with flesh and blood but against the rulers, authorities, and spiritual powers in this present darkness.

- Reflect on last week, where did you miss the spiritual reality of the warfare and treated a relationship or circumstance as if the difficulty and the solution were sourced by flesh and blood?
- Think forward into the coming week, where will you be tempted to make earthly a conflict or struggle rather than enjoy seeking a heavenly solution by crying out to God for help and strength.
- Spend a moment or two preparing for the spiritual warfare of the weeks and months ahead. Bless God that He is an ever-present help in our time of need.

6. Jesus From Others

Close your time together in letting each person share something they came to love about Jesus from something someone in the group shared during your time together.

What do you love more about Jesus from what someone shared during our CG tonight?