

Message Notes:



The Traps of the Spiritual World

October 23, 2022

1 Peter 5:8 Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1. We are seeking _____.

Ecclesiastes 3:11, Psalms 119:105

- **The trap is _____.**

Isaiah 47:13, 1 Timothy 4:1, Deuteronomy 18:10-12

2. We are seeking _____.

- **The trap is _____.**

Galatians 5:19-20, 1 Corinthians 10:19-20

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Growth Group Homework – October 23, 2022

1. Summarize your top takeaways from the message.
2. What from the message did you struggle with or find challenging?

In the book of Ephesians, chapter 6, the Apostle Paul identifies truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, the Bible, and prayer as items that help us stand against our enemy. This week you will look at truth, righteousness, and peace.

3. *Ephesians 6:14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist...* The Greek word for truth is *alethia*. It refers to that which aligns with reality and facts. It exists regardless of what I think or feel. In the spiritual battle, why is it important to keep your thoughts and emotions in line with truth?

Question: What are some of the practices that help a person regularly check the truth with what they are thinking, feeling, and doing?

4. *Ephesians 6:14 Stand firm then... with the breastplate of righteousness in place...* Because we have been justified through Christ's righteousness (Romans 8:1-4), we are to rely on God's power and build patterns into our lives of doing what is right. What are some of the indications that you are relying on your own power to fight sin, instead of God's power? Give an example.

Question: In your life, what are some of the sins that regularly trip you up? What have you found to be effective or ineffective in avoiding these?

5. *Ephesians 6:14-15 Stand firm then... with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.* God wants us to be at peace with him and others. Relationship conflict and the wrongs we do to others and they do to us causes us to get stuck. When was a time you got sideways with someone and it started to consume your energy and thoughts?

Question: When have you had to do the hard thing of asking for forgiveness for a sin you committed against someone? How did that help you get unstuck?

Question: What are some of the practices that allow us to live at peace with others?

6. What is one thing from this lesson you can apply this week?