

Living The Higher Calling While Facing Evil

Ephesians 6:10-24

1. Be Encouraged vs. 10-12

Although the devil will attempt to try to stop us from living out our higher calling given by God, we do not need to be afraid, as God has enabled us to put on His weapons that will allow us to stand firm because God has supremacy over all things

Question:

What difference would it really make if we were to acknowledge the reality of our spiritual warfare against the powers of darkness?

2. Be Equipped vs. 13-17

As we stand firm in the Lord, we need to intentionally face the devil's attacks with the tools that God has given us. God has given us truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and his word to protect us as we live out our higher calling.

Question:

Where is my focus? Am I enticed by the negativity and evil in this world, or am I keeping my focus on God?

- Am I really committed to the truth of the gospel?
- Am I acting in righteousness?
- Am I seeking peace?
- Am I putting my faith in my God?
- Am I remembering salvation?
- Am I wisely believing, speaking, and living God's Word?

3. Be Engaged vs. 18-20

How do we engage in God's battle? We pray always in the Spirit as he intercedes for us (Romans 8:26-27), be attentive to what needs prayer and how God wants us to pray, and continue to pray for the Lord's people.

Question:

How often are you engaged in spiritual warfare? In other words, how often do you engage in prayer so that you are empowered to use God's armour of truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and God's word?

In what ways do you need peace, love, faith, and grace in your life right now?

4. Be Effectual vs. 21-24

Apostle Paul ended the letter to Asia Minor with the emphasis that Tychicus will come to share Paul's circumstances and mindset so that those reading the letter will be encouraged.

We are to help others in standing firm by sharing life with each other so that our experiences and knowledge will encourage others to live the higher calling; sharing the gospel and our own lives.

Question:

How can you encourage another Christian in his or her spiritual battles?

Conclusion:

We are called by God to live out our higher calling through finding our strength in the Lord, equipping ourselves with the weapons God has given us to stand firm against evil, engaging through constant prayer in the Spirit, and encouraging others through sharing God's faithfulness in our own lives.