Community Group Notes + Questions

The Real Spiritual Battle | Ephesians 6:10-20 | 5.16.21
Speaker: Anthony Melicharek

Icebreaker: Who are some of the spiritual leaders (local or well-known) that have an impact on you?

What reminds you that the spiritual realm is real? Tragedy, the fall of a role model, your personal struggles with temptation/sin, etc?

Anthony presented us with a different framework in which to view this passage - were you challenged by it or did it help you better understand the message Paul was trying to convey?

Preparing for Cosmic Battle...

1. Be Strong (v. 10)
   - What does it look like or feel like to be strengthened by God? Can anyone share a time in which you know that your strength was provided by something outside of yourself?
   - In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Paul embraces his weakness - how does God remind you that his “power is made perfect in weakness”?

2. Be Armed (in the Lord) (vs. 11-17)
   - Read Isaiah 11:4-5; 59:17 & Eph 6:11-17 - take time to compare and contrast this. Has anyone ever connected these passages before? What does this teach or remind us about God?
   - What schemes of the devil tend to get you off track the most often? (disunity, personal sin, false teachers, discouragement, apathy, suffering - schemes used against the Ephesians or are there others)
   - How can recognizing that God is fighting a hand to hand combat style battle over you impact your relationship with him?
   - Putting on our armor means to mediate and believe that Jesus is the one wearing the armor for our rescue thus reminding us of our weakness and need for him - In the midst of a battle, are you able to “be still” in order for this to be your battle strategy? Why or why not?

3. Be Prayerful (to the Lord) (v. 18)
   - How can time in prayer change you, or your perspective of God and/or your situation? Is anyone willing to share specific examples?
   - In what ways have you seen your faith impacted due to increased seasons of prayer and bible reading? If you experienced battles during this season, how did you manage them differently then in seasons of drought?