

ARMOR



GROUP STUDY



ARMOR: Group Study

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Week 2: Stand Against (Pt. 1)

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

1. PRAY

The first thing that we need in order to STAND AGAINST the enemy is to receive His presence. Putting on the whole armor of God is putting on God. Open up your group time by asking for the Lord to truly unleash his presence in your time. After a time of individual prayer, ask for 2-3 people to invite Jesus into your time.

2. SHARE

“Are you battle ready?” has been the challenge as we begin this study. As we answer this question we want to make sure that we are fighting God’s battles, with God’s equipment, God’s way! Spend some time sharing where you are battle ready right now, and where you aren’t. For example: “I am battle ready because my time in the Word has been really consistent and rich” or “I am not battle ready because my time in the Word has really been non existent”.

3. STUDY

As we consider standing against, let’s consider how Jesus stood against the enemy by opening up our bibles to Matthew 4:1-11. Invite someone in your group to read these verses.

After the baptism of Jesus, the enemy tries to tempt Jesus to follow him and the world over God the Father. So many times the enemy will unleash attacks on us after we have experienced an incredible victory with the Lord. Share some times in your life when this has happened to you or maybe someone that you know.

One of the things that we need to notice is that Jesus was “led up by the Spirit” into the wilderness. This temptation is just before the launch of Jesus’ ministry. Sometime the Lord will allow certain attacks or temptation to come into our life in order to strengthen our walk with him. We all know that suffering can be difficult but we also know that suffering can bring growth.

As you reflect on different times when you have experienced spiritual warfare or difficult times, how did the Lord use that time to grow you in Christ? Now that you can look back, how did the Lord use that time to prepare you for the future.

Notice that Jesus never counter-attack the temptations from the enemy with the things of this world. Jesus stood against the temptation by quoting Scripture back to the devil. Re-read these three Scriptures together again.

- **Temptation of Hunger / Jesus responds with Deuteronomy 8:3.**
- **Temptation of Testing / Jesus responds with Deuteronomy 6:16**
- **Temptation of Worship / Jesus responds with Deuteronomy 6:13**

With this model from Jesus, in what ways can we “stand against” the enemy. Close out your time by considering some of the ways that enemy is tempting us and then began to speak the truth of God’s Word over these temptations.

Remember that we can “trust His proclamation”!!! Get creative and specific in this time. Serve each other through these seasons of temptation.

4. RESPOND

For our next study we are going to take a closer look at our opponent. For this study, we are focusing in on our play. We are called to stand against by receiving His presence, trusting His proclamation, and executing His plan. The Christian life is a battle and in Christ we have the advantage. We fight from victory, not for victory.

Close out this time by sharing some victories that the Lord has given you and your family in this season. As you take time to share, really celebrate the faithfulness of God. Too many times the enemy tries to discourage us by bringing us off the mountain top of our position in Christ. After sharing these praise reports, close by reading Romans 8:31-39. The gates of hell will never prevail against Christ and His church.

