

## Principalities & Powers (8 of 8)

### Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

**Sunday, June 21st, 2026**



**Series Focus:** The Apostle Paul wrote, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"* (Ephesians 6:12). The Bible tells a story of a real cosmic conflict—where spiritual rebellion has corrupted the world—but through Jesus, God is reclaiming the nations, and he invites his people to participate in this spiritual fight through prayer. *Principalities & Powers* is an 8-week sermon series exploring the unseen spiritual conflict behind human history, the victory of Christ over evil, and the role of believers in spiritual warfare through prayer. Join us each week (May 3-June 21) as we learn about our real enemy and how to fight like Jesus.

**Sermon Title:** The Call to Fight

**Scripture Reading:** Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:3-4; 1 Timothy 6:12; James 4:7

**Sermon Focus:** Spiritual warfare is not about fear, panic, fascination with demons, or mastering spiritual techniques—it is about standing firm in the victory of Jesus Christ. In the final message of our series, Pastor David invites us to bring our knowledge of the unseen cosmic conflict into our reading of Ephesians 6:10-18 as he unpacks what Paul means by the "armor of God" and how we are to engage in the spiritual fight against the forces of darkness through intercessory prayer and obedience to Jesus Christ.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 silently to yourself and then have someone read it aloud. Throughout this series, we've explored the cosmic struggle between God and the powers of darkness. Considering everything we've learned about the "principalities and powers" in this series—that our battle is not against flesh and blood—how has your understanding of Eph. 6:12 and spiritual warfare changed?
2. Pastor David explained that the Armor of God is not a mystical ritual but a picture of a life shaped by Christ. Look back at Ephesians 6:13-17. Which piece of the armor stands out to you most right now? Why do you think Paul emphasizes "standing firm" rather than attacking or fearing the powers? What practical step can you take this week to "put on" that piece of armor and fight?
3. Paul concludes the armor passage by calling believers to persistent prayer. Why do you think prayer is so central to spiritual warfare? Recall the *three* cosmic rebellions in Gen. 3, 6, and 11, as well as Daniel 10. How does the cosmic conflict worldview help us understand the importance of intercessory prayer? Has it helped how you view prayer? Also, what tends to discourage you from praying consistently?
4. Pastor David said the following: "The three cosmic rebellions, Jesus' reversal of those rebellions, and the ongoing spiritual conflict in the heavenly realms is not a distraction from real-world problems; it is the biblical explanation for why those problems are so deep. And the Church confronts the powers (as Jesus did) not by escaping the world, but by bringing the reign and rule of God into every corner of it through prayer, justice, mercy, discipleship, deliverance, reconciliation, and radical enemy-love. While also remembering that it is Christ alone who has disarmed the powers and will someday defeat them when he brings heaven to earth." He went on to say, "Our prayers, our discipleship, and our acts of justice are not done because we think that we can rid the world of sin, death, and the devil—not that we are going to purge the earth of injustice—no, we do them as a witness to the One who will."

If this is true, how ought this truth impact the way we pray and do justice?

5. Looking back over this 8-week series, what is the one truth, insight, or challenge that God has impressed most deeply on your heart? In what way have you been helped to understand spiritual warfare, our real enemy, and the need for prayer?
6. **WEEKLY PRACTICE: Intercessory Prayer – "Put On Your Armor and Fight!"**
  - **Challenge:** Spend 10-15 mins daily interceding for others (e.g., leaders, family, friends, church, community, the world, etc.).
  - **Invitation: Pray:** "Lord, I'm joining the spiritual fight against evil. I intercede and pray for (he/she/them). Help them, Jesus!"

- **Goal:** See being with Jesus, becoming like him, and doing what he says as an act of spiritual warfare; make intercessory prayer an integral part of your faith formation and activism.

Finally, after each of you have shared how God is speaking to you through this series, and any specific invitation to engage more in intercessory prayer, use the remaining time you have to pray for each other as you put on your armor and fight.