

Relationship Goals
Devil Kicking

TALK IT OVER

- How has praying for your spouse/ relationships been going? What has it done for your relationships (marriages, dating, friendships)?

Read Ephesians 6 (Passage is on 2nd page. This is from The New Living version. Feel free to use or read from your own Bible/app. Be careful navigating parts of this passage. This does not condone slavery...specifically in the context of American slavery. This passage is more about indentured servants working off debts). Once you've read the passage ask these questions:

- What new thing did you discover in the story that you did not know before?
- What did you learn about God? (Read Matthew 4:3-4. How does he equip us to fight the enemy? How does God's armor actually protect? Why do you think he uses the image of a soldier here?)
- What did you learn about people? (Think about what Abby said regarding Distraction and Seduction. Why are we so easily distracted? What distractions? Seduction comes at our weak points...Grand Canyon...How do we guard against those trigger points?)
- What will you take away from this discussion? (How has this opened your eyes to what the enemy is actually like? 1 Peter 5:8...Devil is a roaring lion...How do we guard against his attacks? How can we be self-aware enough to recognize the subtly he uses?)
- What will you do with what you have learned? (What concrete steps do you need to take right now? This question could open a can of worms. If someone opens up about marriage/relationship issues or addiction to pornography put them in touch with staff so we can get them the help they need.)
- Is there anything else you wanted to share that we didn't hit in this discussion?
- Next week make sure to read Matthew 19. Think through the questions we ask weekly as you read.

Make sure to check in with your SG this week. How can you pray for them? This is where the discipleship aspect comes in. Work towards identifying your 3 (that you can really pour into) and then your 1 (that person that will replicate what you're doing now). Take a few minutes each day and make a text or phone call to everyone in the group.

TALK IT OVER

we do, whether we are slaves or free.

⁹ Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.

The Whole Armor of God

¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we^[a] are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.^[a] ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil.^[a] ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.^[a]

¹⁹ And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike.^[a] ²⁰ I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

Final Greetings

²¹ To bring you up to date, Tychicus will give you a full report about what I am doing and how I am getting along. He is a beloved brother and faithful helper in the Lord's work. ²² I have sent him to you for this very purpose—to let you know how we are doing and to encourage you.

²³ Peace be with you, dear brothers and sisters,^[a] and may God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you love with faithfulness.

²⁴ May God's grace be eternally upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

Make sure to read ahead of time and either retell the story or have someone (multiple people) help you retelling the story. Make sure to use your update with points from Abby's sermon.

Ephesians 6 New Living Translation (NLT)

Children and Parents

⁶ Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord,^[a] for this is the right thing to do.

² "Honor your father and mother."

This is the first commandment with a promise: ³ If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."^[b]

⁴ Fathers,^[a] do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Slaves and Masters

⁵ Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ. ⁶ Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. ⁷ Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

⁸ Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good