Ephesians 6:12 "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." (NIV)

Ephesians 6:13 "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to STAND your ground, and after you have done everything, to STAND." (NIV)

How to Win—Part 1 (last week)

Ephesians 6:14-15 "[14] **STAND FIRM** then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace." (NIV)

- RELY on God's truth. – "Belt of truth buckled around your waist"
- REMAIN in God's Righteousness – "Breastplate of Righteousness"
- Be ROOTED in God's Good News about Jesus – "Feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace"

HOW TO WIN SPIRITUAL BATTLES (PART 2)

Ephesians 6:16-17 "[16] <u>In addition</u> to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take up the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

1. MAINTAIN a strong faith.

Ephesians 6:16 "… take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." (NIV)

Ephesians 3:16-17 "[16] I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, [17] so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through **faith** …" (NIV)

1 Peter 5:8-9 "[8] Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. [9] Resist him, **standing firm in the faith**, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings." (NIV)

Some Fiery Arrows—Charles Stanley—**When the Enemy Strikes**

- Fear
- Doubt:
- Lust
- Loneliness
- Jealousy
- Rejection
- Guilt
- Greed/Covetousness
- Unforgiveness
- Anger
- Discouragement
- Pride

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is **confidence** in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." (NIV)

1 John 5:3-5 "[4] … for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our **faith.** [5] Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who **believes** that Jesus is the Son of God." (NIV)

2. MANAGE your mind.

Ephesians 6:17 "Take up the helmet of salvation …" (NIV)

Ephesians 2:4-5 "[4] But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions —it is by grace you have been saved." (NIV)

2 Corinthians 4:4 "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." (NIV)

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 "3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (NIV)

3. MEMORIZE and MAKE KNOWN God's Word.

Ephesians 6:17b "Take … the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (NIV)

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges thoughts and attitudes of the heart." (NIV)

Psalm 119:11 "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (NIV)

1 John 2:14 "I write to you, dear children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, **because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you**, and you have overcome the evil one." (NIV)

Romans 10:14-15 "14… How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (NIV)

Acts 12:24 "But the **word of God** continued to spread and flourish." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

Ephesians 6:13 "Therefore put on **the full** armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand." (NIV)

And Win!