

Ephesians for Everyman: *Identity Crisis*

Week Six: Ephesians 6

Welcome to our final session in *Identity Issues*, where we have been journeying through Ephesians for Everyman! Our hope is that God has used this study to encourage, challenge and inspire you to live out your true identity in Christ.

Jesus introduced us to an _____, in which we are currently _____ whether we know it or not!

“For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world....” - Ephesians 6:12

The battle we fight, is a _____.

“A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.” - Ephesians 5:10

We are never called to _____ in our own _____.

God’s man is called to receive the power that God offers, in order to stand strong against the enemy. In this we are minded that Jesus Christ _____ than our enemy. Period.

It is not a cosmic power struggle. God holds all power and all authority and the enemy knows it!

- God is *omniscient* (all knowing), our enemy is not
- God is *omnipresent* (present everywhere at once), our enemy is not
- God is *omnipotent* (all powerful), our enemy is not
- God is *sovereign*, our enemy is not
- God is *in control*, our enemy is not
- God is bringing all things under the authority of Jesus Christ by His great power and according to His great plan and purpose! Amen!

"Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil." - Ephesians 6:11

As God's men we put on the army "of God". This statement does not mean things which God likes or approves of, the armor "of God" is the very armor worn by *God Himself!* It is the very armor that is God himself!

"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 be standing firm." - Ephesians 6:13

Isaiah 59:17 shows the picture of Christ as a victorious warrior, and describes the weapons he wields and the armor he wears:

*"He put on **righteousness** as his body armor
and placed the **helmet of salvation** on his head.
He clothed himself with a **robe of vengeance**
and wrapped himself in a **cloak** of divine passion."*

Every piece of the armor represents something that Jesus Christ has done for us, and so there is always _____.

Every piece of the armor of God also has a specific truth for us, something that we must accept and put into practice. As such, there is always _____.

"Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth..." - Ephesians 6:14

For the man of God, truth is a _____.

The enemy's lies follow a predicable pattern: He lies about:

Who _____ are.

Who _____ is.

Who _____ really are.

How is God's man to stand firm, wearing the breastplate of righteousness? Is this something he achieves? Something gained over time? No! The Man of God stands in the _____ of _____.

"For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ." - 2 Corinthians 5:21

The shoes of a Roman soldier were not meant for running, or hiking, but rather for traction. They had cleats, and were meant to give sure footing. For the man of God, the _____ allies us to _____.

The Gospel brings peace between us and God, and so God's man does not settle for shame and fear. Instead, when you are confronted with _____, run _____ Jesus.

The "Shield of Faith" protects us against flaming arrows. These lies of the enemy are not intended to kill, but rather to cause confusion and chaos. The man of God does not find peace in the absence of problems, or in a hopeful outcome. The man of God puts his faith in _____, not in his _____.