

SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS REAL AND WE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR IT.

RECAP

This past week many of us have experienced the destructive effects of the ice storm.

If you haven't already, check in with your House Church to see if there are ways you can help each other. (Food, tree cleanup, etc.)

Also, does anyone have a story they'd like to share where they have seen God at work in the midst of the crisis?

IDEA 1

Revelation 12 reminds us that spiritual warfare is real and happening right now. There is a cosmic battle taking place and an enemy we are fighting.

Rob said, "Christ's birth was a declaration of war."

Take 5 minutes in silence to think about this question and then share with the group:
How am I being attacked by the enemy?

IDEA 2

You have a strategic role to play. Rob laid out these four ways you can engage in spiritual warfare:

1. Resist the enemy
2. Following the way of the lamb
3. Being willing to suffer
4. Maintain your testimony

*(txt/print out these four points to your group so they can visually see all four points)

IDEA 2 CONT.

Resist the enemy - The enemy wants you to feel condemned, inadequate, and guilty. You can overcome him by resisting those lies and repenting. Repentance brings what's hidden into the light so that the enemy doesn't have authority over you.

Following the way of the lamb - Finding your direction and identity in Christ and not just doing what you want. As a Christian, you are not the master of your life.

Being willing to suffer - You control how you suffer, not what you suffer through. Praise God through your suffering.

Maintaining your testimony - Don't lose your allegiance to God. "And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." (Rev 12:11)

When you hear these four points, which one(s) are you struggling with?

*(If your group needs answering this question you can ask,
"Which one of these four things is drawing your attention? Why do you think?")*

APPLICATION

Ephesians 6:16 tells us that we can defend ourselves from the attacks of the enemy by "taking up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one."

What is a practical/tangible way the Holy Spirit is calling you to 'take up your shield' and fight the enemy?

NOTE: When you become 'dangerous' towards the enemy, he is going to attack you. If a basketball player starts scoring a lot of points, they are going to get double-teamed. Be prepared to fight as you allow yourself to enter spiritual warfare.

Finish by praying over your YAHC.