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*Wednesday GEL Group*

*Grow Encourage Learn*

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As we near the conclusion of our journey in the book of Ephesians, for the next couple of weeks, we will be studying what Paul has written in chapter 6. We have seen in this letter, Paul exhorting the need for unity in the body of believers and here in chapter 6, he provides a further explanation as to why. We need to be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. We need to stand against the devil's schemes.

Let's pray and then read Ephesians 6:10-13

1. We are given earlier clues in Paul's letter as to how to be strong in the Lord. Compare Ephesians 3:16 with 4:30. How are we strengthened? Is there a way of frittering away that provision?
2. Does becoming a Christian mean we will live a life of soft enjoyment and ease? Why?
3. In our time and culture, we don't really need to think about putting on armour. However, in Paul's day, it was everyday attire for a Roman soldier. Where does a Roman soldier obtain his armour? Does the soldier have to make it himself? What are the capabilities of the Roman armour?
4. What is the armour adapted for? Is it defense only?
5. What is our struggle? Does this mean we have conflict with other humans?
6. How does Ephesians 1:21 provide any further clues to what Paul is writing? What does Ephesians 2:2 suggest?
7. Discuss this sentence written by a commentator "Paul warns believers that unaided; they will be powerless in the strife and must suffer defeat. They are secure and will be victorious only as they make the strength of God their own".

8. What is your view of Paul's description of who and what the enemy is in verse 12?
  
9. What can we do about this?
  
10. Next week we will be unpacking each item of the armour. Is this something you see as important in living a life of faith today or is Paul only writing to the people of his day? Why?
  
11. What does Paul mean in verse 13, "you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand? Does this make any sense?
  
12. What have you **GROWN** tonight in faith?
  
13. What has **ENCOURAGED** you?
  
14. What have you **LEARNED**?
  
15. Let's spend some time in prayer