

## **Citizens | Prayerful and Prepared**

**Next Steps Review:** Did you invite someone to join you at church or LifeGroup?

**Icebreaker:** Would you enjoy having a surprise party thrown for you? Why or why not?

**This Week's Big Idea:** The Church is not dying off, it is becoming clearly defined. So what does it look like for you to be a part of the church?

**What do you remember most, or what stuck with you from the weekend's teaching?**

**Scripture:** Read Ephesians 6|10-12

1. Share a memorable superhero or fantasy story about someone taking a stand against powerful forces. What kinds of weapons, armor, or powers did they use?
2. As citizens of God's Kingdom, our behavior will stand in contrast to the behavior of citizens of the kingdoms of the world. What are ways you have experienced this difference?
3. How does it affect you to know that the opposition we face actually originates in the spiritual realm?

**Scripture:** Read Ephesians 6|13-17

4. How does knowing something's coming (as opposed to being surprised) change our reaction to it?
5. What stands out to you about the armor of God? Why?
6. Give specific examples of how the different aspects of the armor of God can help us to stand in times of struggle.

**Scripture:** Read Ephesians 6|18-20

7. Can you share an example of a time when you prepared for something, but it still felt overwhelming as you were experiencing it?
8. How does prayer help in times of struggle? Share an example from your life from the last month.
9. What is the relationship between prayer and being alert?

**Next Steps:** Commit to having a **Daily Encounter** time with the Lord each day this week, and specifically pray through something you're currently struggling with.