

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

July 25/26, 2015; Revealed

Speaker:

Campus Pastors

Scripture Focus: Ephesians 5 & 6

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed “Mission Revealed.” There will be a question or two specific to each CP’s message, but feel free to use any question that resonates with your group whether you heard that particular message or not; they’re all based in Ephesians 5-6! These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Growing up, many of us played games where we had a “mission” to accomplish – capture the flag, red light/green light, Simon says.... What was your favorite game to play when you were young? If you have time, choose one of them and play it right now!

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. The book of Ephesians tells us there are things within us that God wants to REVEAL to us and open our eyes to. Not only that, but he wants to call these things out of us. What needs to be revealed to you during this sermon series?

Specific Questions:

1. BC/BRPM: What “mission” has God revealed to you? What steps have you taken in honoring it? What more can you do to fully walk in that mission?

2. BRAM: Pastor Joel broke down the reasons behind each piece of the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:13-17) stating that “it’s not on you by default, you have to put it on.”:

- Vs. 14 – Stand firm with the **belt of truth**: truth pulls everything together and makes us ready to battle.

- Vs. 14 – Put on the **breastplate of righteousness**: righteousness protects us in the vital areas of our relationship with God.
- Vs. 15 – **Feet fitted with the readiness** that comes from the **gospel of peace**: peace provides a balanced foundation.
- Vs. 16 – Take up the **shield of faith**: faith fights back attacks from the enemy; living in faith is playing offense.
- Vs. 17 – Take the **helmet of salvation**: the greatest battlefield is in our mind. May our minds be restored unto the joy of our salvation.
- Vs. 17 – Take the **sword of the spirit**, which is the word of God: Speak the word of God into your life. To speak it, you have to be in it, know it, and let it be in you.

When you go out each day, are you prepared for battle? Which part of armor is the easiest to “put on?” Which part is the most difficult? Why? What can you do to fully armor yourself each day?

3. GT: Pastor Jeremy stated that, “Living on mission isn’t about **moments** of impact and transformation. It’s about the **momentum** of impact and transformation; impact that is ongoing and continual.” What is your response to this? Are there moments of impact that you need to be more intentional about to create momentum? Are you living on mission? If so, how? If not, why not?

4. KT: Pastor Joshua gave a call to action asking everyone to consider this question: “Are you living up to your purpose of doing good works? Are you leaning into who God is?” Are you? If you are, in what ways can you help those around you live up to their calling? If not, how can you lean more into God to live up to your purpose?

5. LT: Pastor Dexter Nutall from New Bethel Baptist Church who spoke at Lincoln this weekend stated that salvation is immediate but sanctification is a process. He further stated that our growth in Christ is a process, and that “we grow OUT of some things [from our former lives] as we grow INTO Christ.” What are you in the process of growing out of? What steps have you taken to do so?

6. PY: Pastor Jon stated that, “to be found in Christ is to be found in a larger story than your own.” What larger story are you a part of right now?

Challenge:

Read, Pray, Act: Go through the full armor of God as broken down by Pastor Joel (provided in question 2) and list out specific ways you can “put on” each piece of armor every day. At the end of each day this week, take an inventory: did you wear your belt of truth? The breastplate of righteousness? Did you take the sword of the spirit with you? If you answer ‘no’ to any of the questions, pray, seeking ways that you can wear them the following day. For those you answer ‘yes’ to, thank God for fully protecting you with his armor.

Read, Pray, Act: Pray through Ephesians 5-6 using the Lectio Divina (“divine reading”) method.

- Read through Ephesians 5-6 listening for the word or phrase that strikes you or stands out.
- Read back through Ephesians 5-6 this time reflecting on the following questions:
 - a. What is it in my life that needed to hear this word today?
 - b. How does this compare to how I live my life?
 - c. Where am I in this letter?
 - d. In what ways am I aligned to this passage?
 - e. What must be claimed today?
- 3. Read through Ephesians 5-6 again to respond to the following questions:
 - a. What is the invitation or challenge for us to respond to?
 - b. What is our response to God's invitation?
- 4. This time, as you read through Ephesians 5-6, focus on rest.
 - a. Release and return to a place of rest in God.
 - b. Have a posture of total yieldedness.
- 5. In the final time of reading through Ephesians 5-6, read it with resolve to carry this word and live it out.