

# MESSAGE APPLICATION GUIDE

Pastor Jeff Thompson



Ephesians 6:10-23

## APPLICATION

1. Pastor Jeff opened with an illustration about being annoyed by standing still in long lines when all we want to do is keep moving. However, Paul teaches that we must stand firm in who we are - in Christ's strength! How have you been standing lately: Are you standing firm in Christ? Have you been tempted to retreat? As you begin your small group discussion, take time now to pray for one another in regards to how we are to stand firm in Christ

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2. Ephesians 6:12 teaches us that we do not wrestle against flesh and blood. It is easy to think we are fighting against your spouse, family member, co-worker, neighbor, etc... Rather, the fight is against the "evil one". Satan is the evil one who uses the schemes and trickery to get our focus off of Christ. Scripture teaches that the evil one is the father of lies (John 8:44). What lies from the evil one are you believing? To counter these lies, what does God say?

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3. We read in Ephesians 6:10 to put on the whole armor of God to fight against the schemes of the devil. As a small group, take time now to read through verses that discuss the belt of truth, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, breastplate of righteousness, shoes for your feet, and the sword of the spirit. Is there anything you are battling against now? How can putting on the armor of God protect you from the fiery arrows from the evil one?

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4. Pastor Jeff mentioned that the devil seeks to divide our marriages, families, etc. He also seeks to deceive us in order to pull us away from God's promises and faithfulness. Finally, the devil seeks to destroy us in order to make us ineffective for God and to get us off the mission. It is at this time that we need to stand firm, not retreat! What are the dangers of retreating?

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5) Paul teaches us to stand in constant prayer - at all times for yourself, and all the saints (v. 18-20). How is your prayer life? What can you do to increase your prayer life for yourself and others? Pastor Jeff encouraged us to pray for others immediately, rather than putting it off. How can you pray together now as a small group?

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