

IRON MAN

STAND YOUR GROUND

taking it home

{ notes for small group, family & personal study
september 25, 2011 }

The Church of One?

Ephesians 6:15-16

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The message today may make you rather uncomfortable... me too! We parachute today into what seems to be two relatively harmless verses (6:15-16). Before we take a look at these verses however, it would be helpful for us to gain perspective from the big picture. As we do so we will discover why this armor of God has been provided for us.

- 1 **Our concern is to be for the Body of Christ**
 - a. 'we' & 'us' (1:1-11; 4:13-15)
 - b. Our faith is way too personal!
- 2 **We are to stand firm against the schemes of the devil (6:11)**
 - a. 2 Corinthians 2:11
- 3 **We are to do that which promotes peace (6:15)**
 - a. Shoes →
 - b. Gospel →
 - c. Peace →
 - d. "preparation" / "readiness" →
- 4 **We are to work together to promote and advance the church (6:16)**
 - a. Shield →
 - b. Shield of faith →

The one thing → The armor of God has...
more to do with us than it does with me

[These notes are also available online at oakwoodnow.org.]

keeping it real

- 1 Describe your favorite pair of specialty shoes. What makes them so unique? Tell of a time when you needed those shoes but you forgot to wear them. What happened? Did it impact anyone besides you?

look at the book

- 2 The Good News of Jesus Christ is all about peace. How would you describe its various facets from these verses? Which facet is most difficult for you to implement?

- Ephesians 2:14-18
- Ephesians 4:1-3
- Romans 5:1
- Philippians 4:4-9
- Romans 12:17-21

- 3 A great battle occurred during the days of King Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:1-25). Compare what you find with what you have been discovering from Ephesians 6:10-20. How did God have them prepare for battle?

the next step

- 4 We have the privilege of announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ to others (Isaiah 52:7). What is the next step for you in responsibly embracing this privilege?

- Learn a simple clear presentation of the Gospel
- Regularly pray for God-given opportunities to share this Good News
- When God sends the opportunity, speak up with courage and respect

my next step this week is to:

- Embrace & memorize the bookmark!
- Select a 'Go Team' experience.
- Design a game plan to help us to stand firm.
- Other _____