



**WRESTLE**  
**Ephesians 6:12-13**  
**January 22, 2023**

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**1. Sunday Summary:** We began this morning by looking at the two mistakes we make when it comes to spiritual warfare: 1) that we think about it too much 2) that we don't think about it at all. Satan is glad for either one of these mistakes. Then we simply worked our way through the two verses of the passage phrase by phrase, noting what spiritual warfare is like. We noted that it's wrestling, which means it's up close and personal, that it's intense and often exhausting. None of which makes it sound very appealing. Along those lines we also noted that if we never struggle and never wrestle in our faith, that's not a very encouraging sign. Next we talked about who we're wrestling with. It's not other people, but it's a spiritual battle ultimately. Behind and underneath the problems and people we come up against are real spiritual beings who seek to turn us away from Christ, and his Kingdom. Then we'll note the way the devil and his ilk work. Revelation calls him a deceiver, and an accuser. He lies to us about God, and accuses us before God and our own conscience. We ended by looking at some practical applications: 1) we ought to expect opposition. 2) We ought to expect an intense, and difficult fight. 3) we fight spiritual battles with spiritual weapons - so if the devil is a liar and accuser we'll need to battle him with truth.

**2. Connecting Questions: (Interactive, life sharing, thought & feeling type stuff)**

- Begin by talking generally about this topic – spiritual warfare and the armor of God. It's not necessarily something that we talk about a lot in Reformed circles. Why? Are you comfortable talking and thinking about spiritual realities like this? Talk about how often you think of these spiritual realities?
  
- Pastor Mike suggested that sometimes strange thoughts suddenly come into our minds. Or out of nowhere intense temptation or trial comes. Have you ever experienced this? If you're comfortable share this experience with your group? Did it ever occur to you that this could be a spiritual attack?
  
- This morning we heard that primarily the devil is a deceiver and an accuser. What are some lies he might be telling in the world about God? About humanity? About you? How is he accusing you?

### **3. Truth Questions: (What does the Bible say?)**

- Read 2 Corinthians 11:14 – What does it mean that Satan masquerades as an angel of light? Give some examples where this might have happened in your life. Where do you see evidence of this in the world? What will it take to see through his disguise?
  
- Read 2 Corinthians 4:4 – What does this passage mean? Why is it important? How can it help us to do ministry in our world today? What sort of feeling or disposition to the “secular” world should it cultivate in believers.

### **4. Formation Questions: (Taking it further, How does the Truth change the way I live?)**

- How will what you’ve learned help you to live out the gospel in your life? What will you do this week to help strengthen your resolve in the face of spiritual opposition?

