



## Small Group Discussion Guide

**ICE BREAKER:** In honor of National Iced Tea Day (June 10th), sweet tea or plain tea? With lemon or not?

**INSTRUCTIONS:** If your group meets bi-weekly, do 1 & 4.

1. Pastor Tom reminded us that from the very beginning, the evil one targeted families. Read Matthew 15:21-22 and 17:14-15. How might each of these families been impacted by what their children battled? Why do you think they asked Jesus for mercy? What did Jesus do in response (see Matthew 15:23-28 and 17:16-18)? What difference did Jesus make in these families' lives? Do you believe Jesus still heals and sets families free? Why or why not?
2. Ephesians 4:26-27 identifies one of the three footholds Pastor Tom listed. Which one and what are the others (see message notes)? How do each of these footholds break down the family structure? How do we best conduct an honest "room check" in our home? If you struggle with any of these footholds, how might your group support you as you seek to overcome?
3. Pastor Tom referred to a recent study that stated parents spend an average of 9 hours a day on various screens, with the average number of times people touch/tap/swipe their smartphones being 2617 times a day. That's 164 times per waking hour! How do we help families stay healthy and connected with these types of distractions? How does our enemy use this digital age to target kids? Teens? Adults? Read 1 Peter 5:8-9. What do these verses say about our approach to our enemy's tactics?
4. Pastor Tom reminded us that we need to remain connected to God to overcome the evil one's battle against us. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. How do we bring God into our everyday life? Does your current schedule/lifestyle allow for you/your family to stay connected to God throughout the week? *"It's not a parent's responsibility to have godly children. It's a parent's responsibility to make sure their children have godly parents."* How does this quote strike you? Read Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 John 3:8b and 4:4. Trusting in God's grace and power is key to overcoming the devil's battle. What steps might you take in order to grow in this area?

## Personal Guide for Week of June 10th

This week, take time each day to put on every piece of God's armor by praying through Ephesians 6:14-17. Each day, consider the different pieces of armor:

DAY 1: **The Belt of Truth** (*What truth do we know about God through His Word?*)

DAY 2: **The Breastplate of Righteousness** (*see Romans 5:1 & 1 Timothy 6:11*)

DAY 3: **The Shoes of Gospel Peace** (*see Philippians 4:7 and Ephesians 4:3*)

DAY 4: **The Shield of Faith & The Helmet of Salvation** (*see Romans 8:37-39*)

DAY 5: **The Sword of the Spirit** (*How did Jesus use God's Word in Luke 4:1-13?*)

# IS THIS US?

## MESSAGE NOTES AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION & PERSONAL GUIDES

"IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT SOMEONE"

JUNE 10, 2018

# IS THIS US?

A SERIES ON PARENTING AND FAMILIES

**“If You Want to Fight Someone”**  
**[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]**

## MESSAGE NOTES

From the beginning, the family has been a \_\_\_\_\_ targeted by the evil one.

There are no \_\_\_\_\_ families.

...many of us are simply unaware that the great, unseen, but very real spiritual battle that rages all around us (note Ephesians 6:11-13) doesn't stop once we close the garage door at our home.

### 1. Understand Every Family is a \_\_\_\_\_

Our adversary doesn't consider the family to be o\_\_\_\_\_-of-b\_\_\_\_\_ for his activity.

...one of his most \_\_\_\_\_ and impactful strategies is to get to us through our spouse and/or our children (note Matthew 15:21-22; 17:14-15).

The deceiver will gladly \_\_\_\_\_ our lack of awareness of his desire to create chaos and disruption and estrangement from God and each other in our homes.

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Check (note Ephesians 4:27)

...sometimes knowingly or unknowingly, we allow certain things into our home that the enemy of our souls can take advantage of and \_\_\_\_\_.

The 3 most common “\_\_\_\_\_” = anger, sexual immorality, and the love of money and stuff...

Make an \_\_\_\_\_ inspection of the “rooms” in your home (not just physical, but emotional and spiritual rooms of our lives, too).

### 3. U\_\_\_\_\_

- Recent study showed parents spend an average of \_\_\_\_\_ hours a day on various screens.
- Average number of times people touch/tap/swipe their smartphones every day = \_\_\_\_\_

*Note 1 Peter 5:8-9a*

A constant \_\_\_\_\_ means that constant connectedness is important.

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord into Every Part of the Day

Don't \_\_\_\_\_ God for just an hour on Sundays...

*Note Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

### 5. \_\_\_\_\_ in God's Grace and Power

*Note Ephesians 6:10-11, 18, 1 John 3:8b; 4:4b*

God is at work in ways s\_\_\_\_\_ and u\_\_\_\_\_.

*Is This Us?:*

*It's not a parent's responsibility to have godly children. It's a parent's responsibility to make sure their children have \_\_\_\_\_.* (C&MA Children's Disciple-Making Facebook posting)

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use it to let us know about your commitment, too!



**“If You Want to Fight Someone”**  
[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

**MESSAGE NOTES**

From the beginning, the family has been a battleground targeted by the evil one. There are no perfect families.

...many of us are simply unaware that the great, unseen but very real spiritual battle that rages all around us (note Ephesians 6:11-13) doesn't stop once we close the garage door at our home.

**1. Understand Every Family is a Target**

Our adversary doesn't consider the family to be out-of-bounds for his activity. ...one of his most cruel and impactful strategies is to get to us through our spouse and/or our children (note Matthew 15:21-22; 17:14-15).

The deceiver will gladly exploit our lack of awareness of his desire to create chaos and disruption and estrangement from God and each other in our homes.

**2. Room Check (note Ephesians 4:27)**

...sometimes knowingly or unknowingly, we allow certain things into our home that the enemy of our souls can take advantage of and leverage.

The 3 most common “footholds” = anger, sexual immorality, and the love of money and stuff... Make an honest inspection of the “rooms” in your home (not just physical, but emotional and spiritual rooms of our lives, too).

**3. Unplug**

- Recent study showed parents spend an average of 9 hours a day on various screens.
- Average number of times people touch/tap/swipe their smartphones every day = 2,617

Note I Peter 5:8-9a

A constant battle means that constant connectedness is important.

**4. Welcome the Lord into Every Part of the Day**

Don't reserve God for just an hour on Sundays...

Note Deuteronomy 6:4-9

**5. Trust in God's Grace and Power**

Note Ephesians 6:10-11, 18, I John 3:8b; 4:4b

God is at work in ways seen and unseen.

*Is This Us?:*

*It's not a parent's responsibility to have godly children. It's a parent's responsibility to make sure their children have godly parents. (C&MA Children's Disciple Making Facebook posting)*

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use it to let us know about your commitment, too!