



- Jesus told us that tough times are ahead.

33 In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world. John 16:33 (MSG)

- Tough times can transform us.

3 Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 2:3 (NLT)

- Boot Camp equips you to engage in the battle.

- When you've faced death, you're not afraid to live.

20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

10 ...Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Ephesians 6:10-13 (NLT)

- You are in a battle.

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

- The life of a Christ follower is a battleground, not a playground.

13 For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins. Colossians 1:13-14 (NLT)

Rules of War:

- This isn't about avoiding the battle, but standing in it.

10 ...Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. Ephesians 6:10-11 (NLT)

- If I don't know I'm in a battle, I've already lost.

19 We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one. 1 John 5:19 (NLT)

- If I don't know my enemy, I'm already defeated.

...Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12 (NLT)

- Know your King, and who you fight with.

10 ...Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10 (NLT)

The Armor we're given:

- The Belt of Truth.

14 Stand firm therefore, by fastening the belt of truth around your waist... Ephesians 6:14 (NET)

44...He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44 (NIV)

Application:

- Stop living a lie?
- Stop participating in lies?
- Stop believing the lies?

17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17 (NIV)

32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32 (NLT)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Do you believe that tough times are necessary for transformation to happen in our lives?
- Do you understand that as a Christian you are in a battle? What are some ways you can identify the battle going on?
- Would you say that you try to avoid the battle or stand in it? What is the difference?
- Why is it important to know that we are in a battle? Does being in a spiritual battle scare you? Why do we not have to be afraid?
- Why is it important that know our enemy? Who do we mistake the enemy to be?
- Why is it important that we don't rely on our own strength or abilities in this battle?
- Talk about what the Belt of truth means? How does truth protect us from the enemy? Why would truth be mentioned first?
- How do we stop living a lie?
- Why is participating in lies so dangerous?
- What lies does the enemy use against you? How can we stop believing them?

For more Talks, visit us at:
fresnoquest.com

