

Bible Reading:

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 (ESV) - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication."
2. Genesis 3:1-15 (ESV) - The Fall of Man and the first deception by Satan.
3. Luke 4:1-13 (ESV) - The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, showcasing His identity and authority.

Observation Questions:

1. In Ephesians 6:10-18, what are the components of the armor of God, and what spiritual realities do they correspond to?
2. How does the passage in Ephesians describe the nature of our struggle and the enemies we face in spiritual warfare?
3. From Genesis 3:1-15, what tactics does the serpent use to deceive Eve, and how does this relate to the concept of truth and lies in spiritual warfare?
4. In Luke 4:1-13, how does Jesus respond to each of Satan's temptations, and what does this tell us about the importance of Scripture in spiritual battles?

Interpretation Questions:

1. Considering the armor of God described in Ephesians, why is it necessary for believers to wear each specific piece, and how does this armor empower them against spiritual attacks?
2. How does the description of our enemies in Ephesians 6 influence our understanding of daily struggles and conflicts?

3. Reflecting on Genesis 3, how do the serpent's tactics of deception manifest in modern-day spiritual and moral challenges?
4. What can we learn from Jesus' use of Scripture during His temptations about the role of God's Word in overcoming personal trials and temptations?

Application Questions:

1. Identify a situation this week where you can apply the "belt of truth" from Ephesians 6. What specific truth will you need to remember or declare in this situation?
2. Think about a recent conversation or media influence that might have challenged your spiritual peace. How can you use the "shoes of the gospel of peace" to restore stability in your life?
3. Reflect on a temptation you face regularly. How can you use Jesus' example from Luke 4 to respond to this temptation with Scripture the next time it arises?
4. Choose one piece of the armor of God to focus on this week. What specific action will you take to strengthen this aspect of your spiritual life?
5. Considering the deceit experienced by Eve in Genesis 3, what is one lie you've believed about yourself or God? How can you counteract this lie with the truth from Scripture this week?