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***We’re All Winners***

***… because of Grace”***

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**Coast Hills Community Church**

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Ephesians 6:10-20 (NLT)

**10**A final word: 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. **14**Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. **15**For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. **16**In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. **17**Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**18**Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

**19**And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God’s mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. **20**I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God’s ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

We live like the winners we are when we follow these rules:

1. **Embrace our new identity and act it out.**

Eph 6:10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

Eph 6:18 Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion.

Col 2:10 “So you also are complete through your union with Christ.”

Rom 8:1 “So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. If God doesn’t condemn us then why would we condemn ourselves?”

Rom 7:25 “Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Romans 8:37 (NIV) “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”

Phil 4:13 ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

1. **Don’t underestimate your enemy - brace yourself for a winnable fight.**

Eph 6:11 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.

John 10:10 “The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.”

2 Tim 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.”

2 Cor 2:11 “so that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.”

1 John 3:8 “But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.”

1 John 4:4 “But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.”

1. **Utilize God’s victory tools - put on God’s protective armor.**
2. ‘putting on the belt of truth”
3. ‘and the body armor of God’s righteousness’
4. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be prepared
5. hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil
6. Put on salvation as your helmet and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

**Spiritually speaking “you’re richer than you think!”**