GHOST STORIES – Prepared for the Battle

November 4, 2024

This week we learned about the spiritual battle that is taking place all around us and how we must prepare for fight that is inevitably coming our way. As followers of Jesus, we are not to shrink back in fear; we are to suit up and engage in the battle with grace and truth.

Getting Discussion Started:

- What stood out to you most from the message this week?
- What image comes to mind when you hear the term spiritual warfare? How was that image shaped? Where did it come from?

Read **Matthew 4:1-11**

- In the message, Nathan said "**opposition** is often a sign that you are on the right path". Have you ever taken a step forward in your faith and experienced unusual opposition as a result? What happened?
- While we might expect a great spiritual battle between Jesus and Satan to resemble a marvel movie, the truth is that the battle happened through conversation. Lies, deception, doubt, & pride are tools that Satan wields to get us off course and into sin. Can you think of a conversation you had recently with yourself or others in which a spiritual battle was also taking place?
- Jesus does not reply with "I think", "everyone agrees", "I feel" – He replies to each temptation by saying "IT IS WRITTEN". Discuss together why knowing the scriptures is so important for anyone who calls themselves a Christian.

Read **Ephesians 6:10-18**

- It is important to remember that it is **God's armour** we must put on. We cannot wear the armour of another or depend upon someone else's faith in the fight. Have you ever tried to depend on someone else's faith?
- What are some of the ways you have made your faith your own? Share with the group.
- Paul describes God's armour using a Roman military uniform. In the message Nathan used a hazmat suit as an alternative to remind us that there are unseen dangers and that we must be suited up and ready at all times. Discuss together some of the ways we might let our guard down and leave ourselves exposed?
- Share a favourite scripture or two with your group that has helped you stand strong in your faith.
- Pray together.