"The Good Fight" 1 Timothy 6:3-12

Our Opponents (The World, the Flesh, and the Devil)

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

"For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot." (Romans 8:6-7)

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

"The principal fight of the Christian is with the world, the flesh, and the devil. These are his never-dying foes. These are the three chief enemies against whom he must wage war." (J.C. Ryle)

"From all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil: Lord God, deliver us." (The Book of Common Prayer)

"Just as man is tempted by the flesh, so too is he tempted by the world and the devil." (Thomas Aquinas)

Our Fight

"So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." (2 Timothy 2:22)

"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." (Ephesians 6:13-17)

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)

Our Prize

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable." (1 Corinthians 9:24-25)

Discuss

- Do you see the world, the flesh, and the devil as real enemies of the fight of faith? Give examples of temptation that can come from each.
- How do you actively seek to read and know God's Word? What verses have been helpful for you in your fight against temptation?
- Reread Ephesians 6:13-17. What sticks out to you about the different pieces of the Full Armor of God? How can you practically equip yourself with these pieces?

Read

1 Samuel 17, Matthew 4:1-11, Ephesians 6:13-17

Pray

- Ask God to deliver us from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil.
- Ask God to strengthen our church to fight the good fight of faith until the end.

Upcoming Events:

- Exploring Membership: October 15, 22, 29, and November 5 at 9:00am
- Men's Breakfast: October 21 at 8:00am
- Trunk or Treat: October 29 from 3:00-5:00pm
 - Volunteer Meeting:Sunday, October 22 at 12:15pm
 - Neighborhood Outreach: Wednesday, October 25 at 6:30pm
- Operation Christmas Child Packing Party: November 4 from 9:00-11:00am