Contending With Cosmic Forces

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

~Ephesians 6:10-12 (NKJV)

1. How much did you know about the cosmic battle between good and evil before watching this presentation? Where did you learn about the great struggle between God and Satan?

2. What story in the Bible impresses you the most as an example of the cosmic battle? What aspects of it help you to sense the intensity of the conflict?

3. When did you experience your most intense attack from spiritual forces of darkness?

Holy Father,

thank You that Jesus is not only my Savior and Lord but also my Protector and my Deliverer.
Choosing Radical Protection

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness 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.

~Ephesians 6:11–13 (NKJV)

1. Why doesn't God automatically protect all His children?

2. What story in Scripture best illustrates carelessness in failing to choose radical protection?

3. What evidences have you seen that convince you that God longs to protect all those who choose His radical protection?

Lord Jesus,
I choose to receive the radical protection that You alone can provide.
Putting on Defensive Weapons

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit.

~Ephesians 6:14-17 (NKJV)

1. Which part of the defensive armor seems most important to you?

2. What are some "deeds of darkness" that God might ask you to discard?

3. What important lesson can you learn from Michael’s story?

Holy Father, please show me any deeds of darkness that I need to put off. Thank You that I can be covered with the armor of light.
Taking Up the Taser of the Spirit

And take ... sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

~Ephesians 6:17 (NKJV)

1. Why is a Taser such a powerful twenty-first century symbol for the *rhema* of God?

2. Which strategy for filling your mind with the Word of God have you tried?

3. When was the last time the Holy Spirit brought a specific *rhema* to your mind during a time of need?

Father in heaven,
I believe that Your Word is a powerful defense against the enemy. Help me to fill my mind with Your Word.
Praying in the Spirit

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

~Ephesians 6:18-20 (NKJV)

1. How is it possible to pray at all times when you have such a busy life?

2. What types of prayers do you most frequently pray?

What other prayers might you add to your prayer life?

3. Who needs your prayers right now and why?

Holy Father,
thank You that the Holy Spirit will help me to pray at all times in harmony with Your will and Your Word.