



Sundays
9am
10:45am
6:30pm

Part 5

Defending the Growth

Ephesians 6:10 - 20

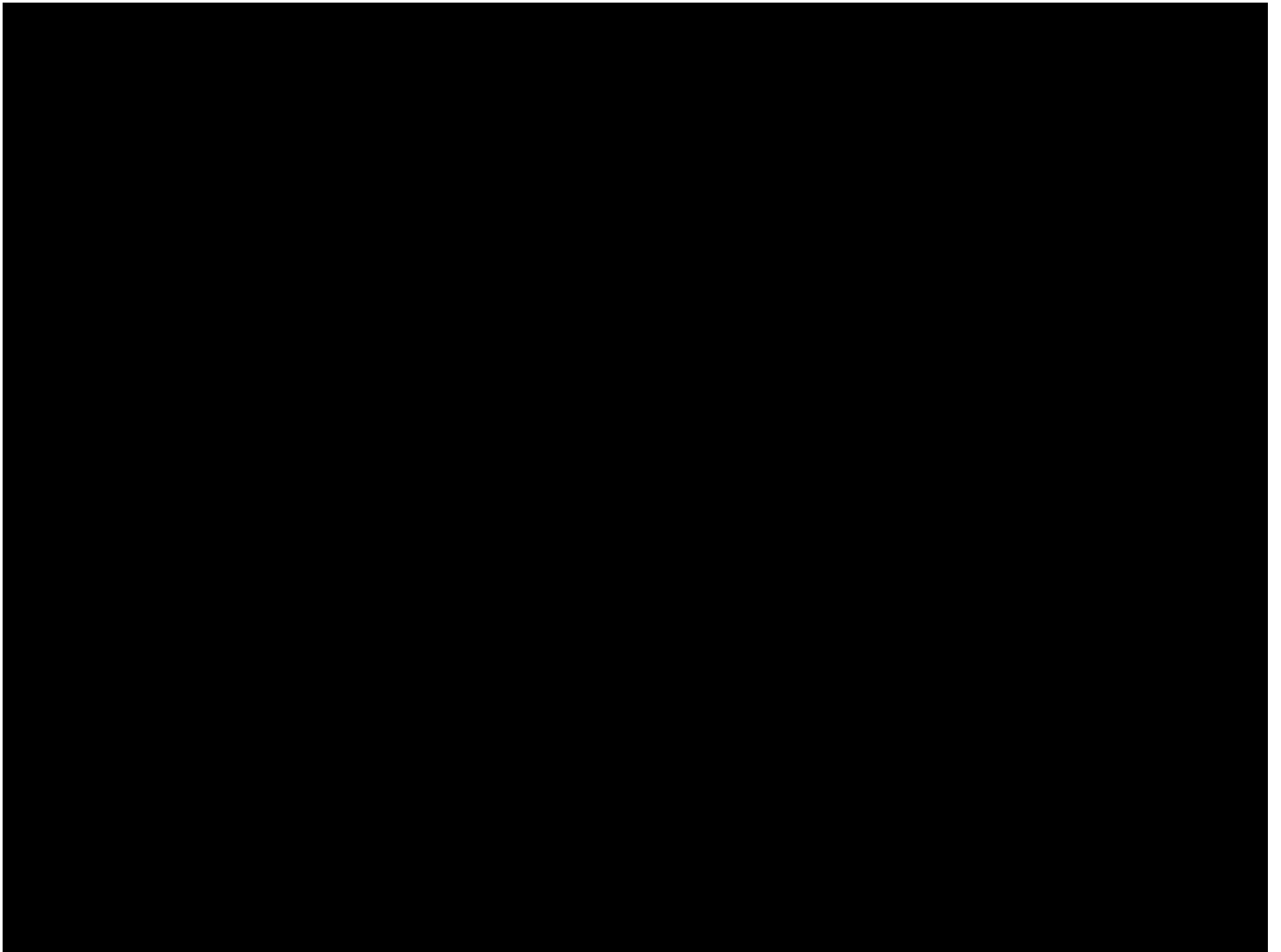
Forgiveness
Humility
Authenticity
Community
Service
Grace
His Word

God's Ingredients For Growth

Ephesians 4:17

¹⁷ With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸ Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

²⁰ But that isn't what you learned about Christ. ²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² throw off your old way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³ Instead, be transformed in your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴ Put on your new life, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. (NLT)



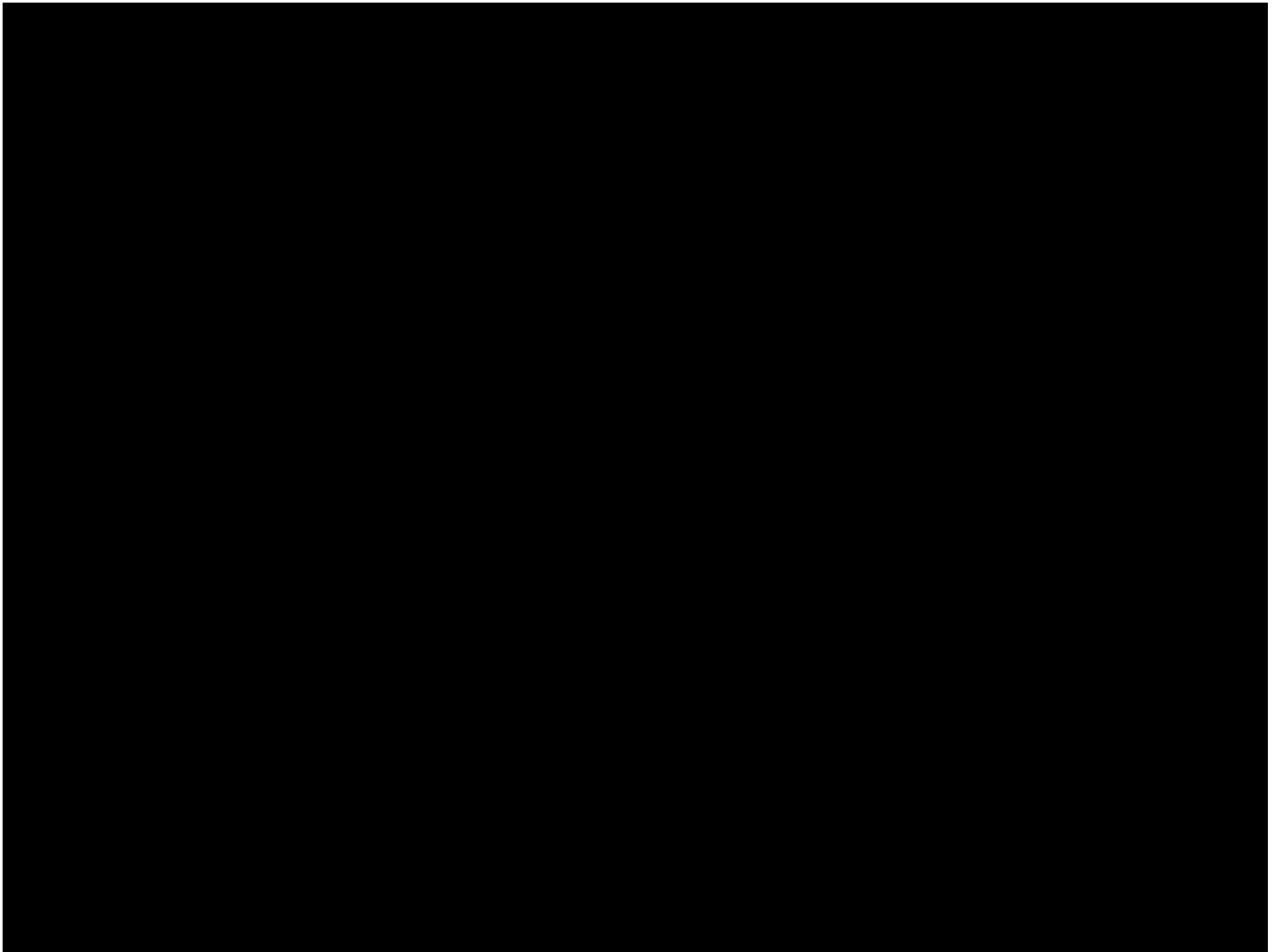
Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the schemes of the devil. Do not let the devil get the better of you, because you are not fighting against flesh and blood, but against the evil forces, against the spiritual powers of this darkness, against the rulers of the forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹² Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.



Ephesians 1:18 – 20

¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know . . . ¹⁹ his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms . . .

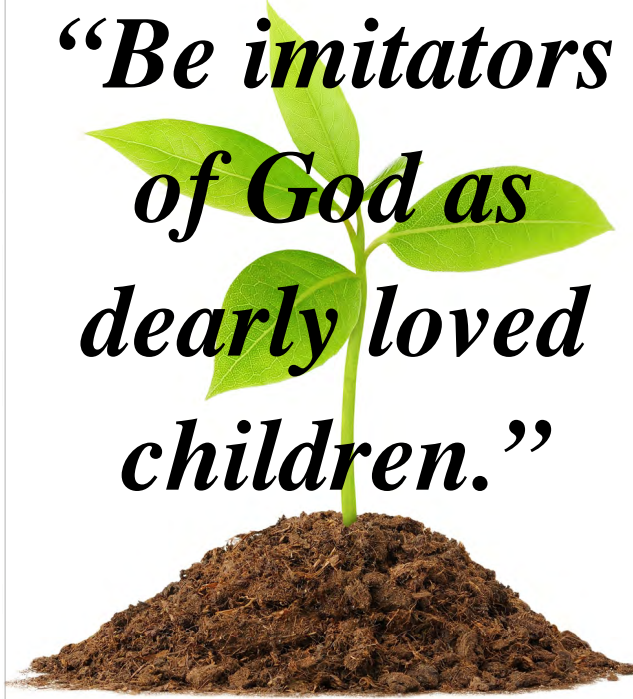


Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers of this dark age, against the forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand firm after you have

***“Be imitators
of God as
dearly loved
children.”***



and blood, but against the powers, against the forces of evil in the spiritual realm. Therefore put on the full armor of God on the day of evil, so that you will be able to stand firm, and not lose your ground, and stand.

Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²

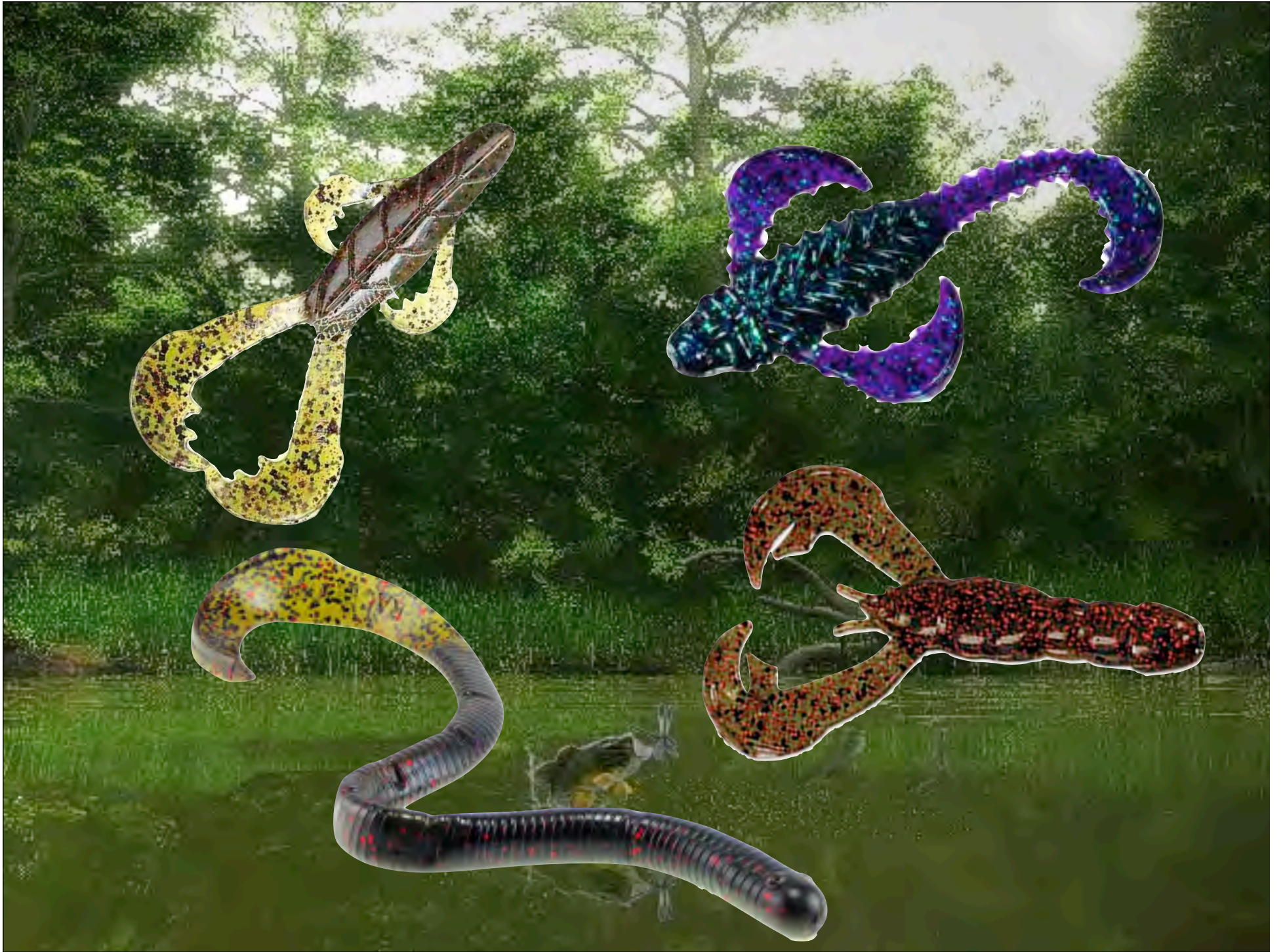
For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

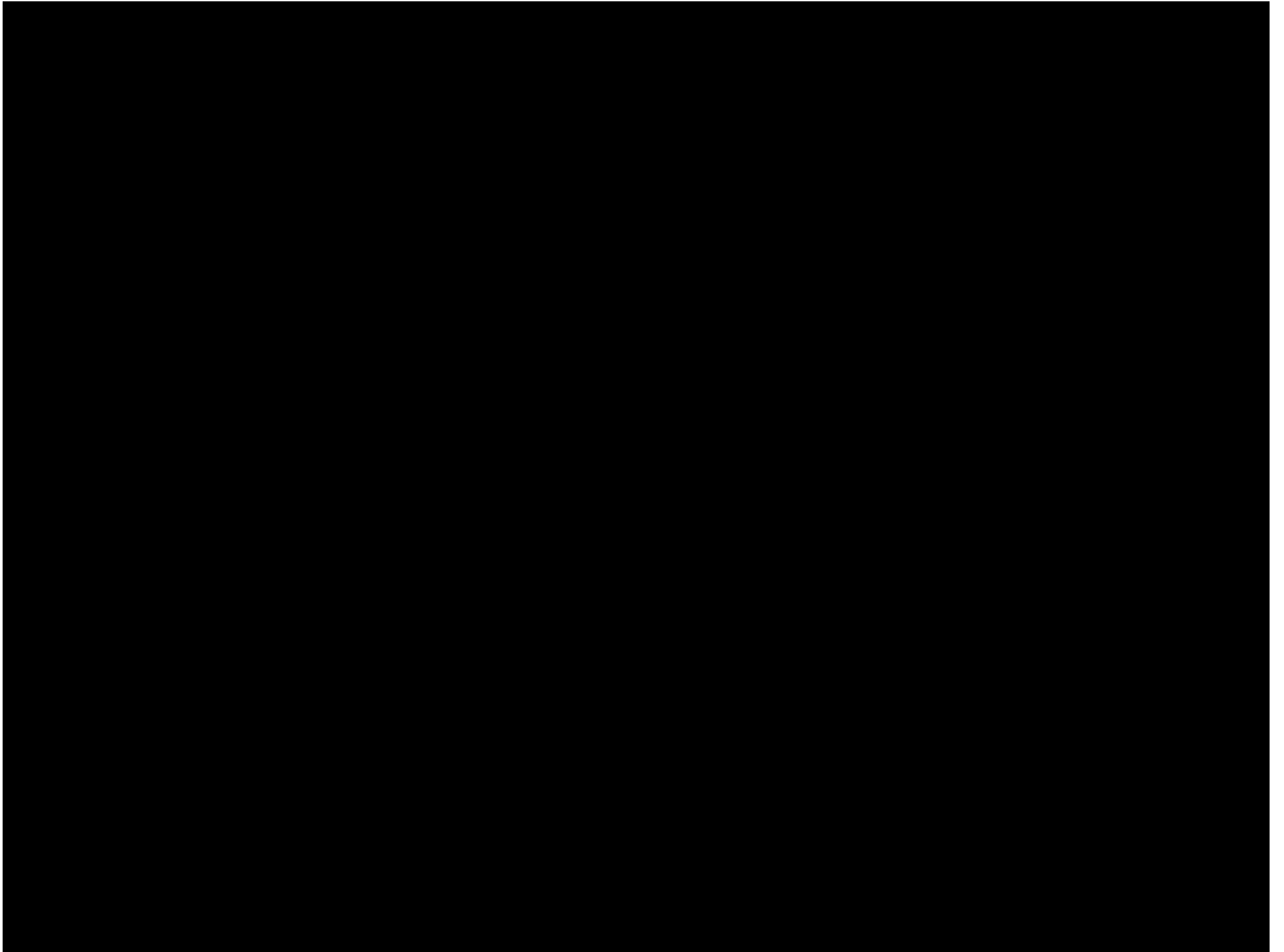
Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it.

2 Corinthians 11:14

. . . Satan himself masquerades
as an angel of light.





Ephesians 6:1

10 Finally
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¹ Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ² You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. (NLT)

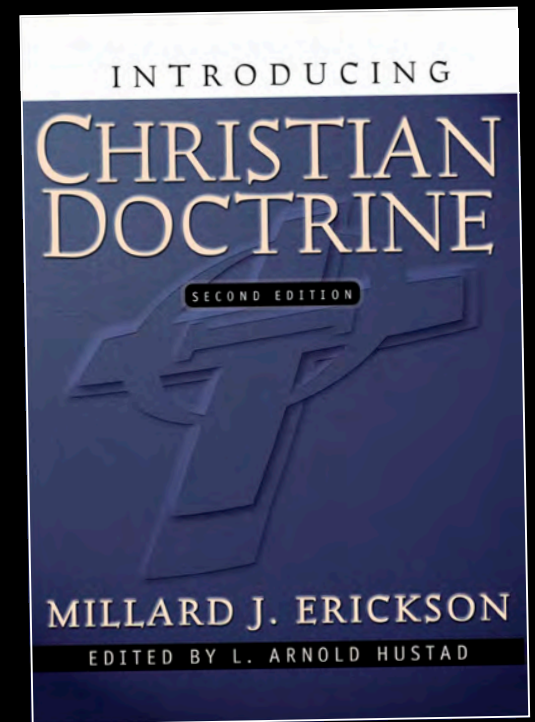


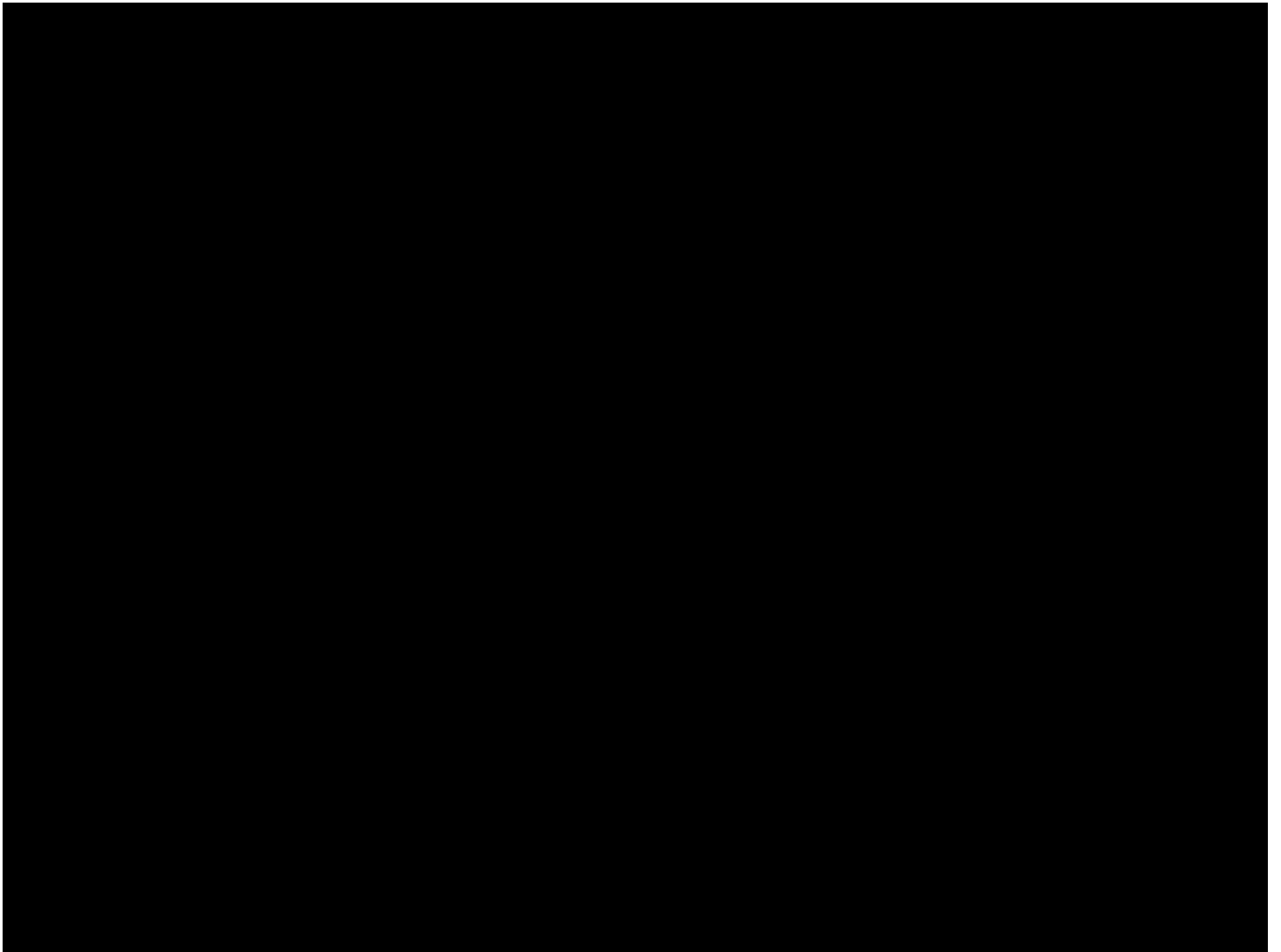
Ephesians 2:1 & 2

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“As Satan’s subjects, demons carry out his work in the world . . . most particularly, they oppose the spiritual progress of God’s people.”





Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore **PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD**, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Philippians 1:27

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with *one mind* striving *side by side* for the faith of the gospel . . . (ESV)

Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁴ Stand firm to
around your
righteousness
fitted with the
gospel of peace
up the shield
extinguish a
one. ¹⁷ Take
sword of the



of truth buckled
breastplate of
with your feet
shoes from the
to all this, take
as much as you can
to overcome the
works of the evil
of the world, the
flesh, and the
word of God.



helmet of
salvation



“...with *one mind* striving *side by side* for the faith of the gospel.”

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that comes from
the gospel

the sword of the
Spirit

of
faith

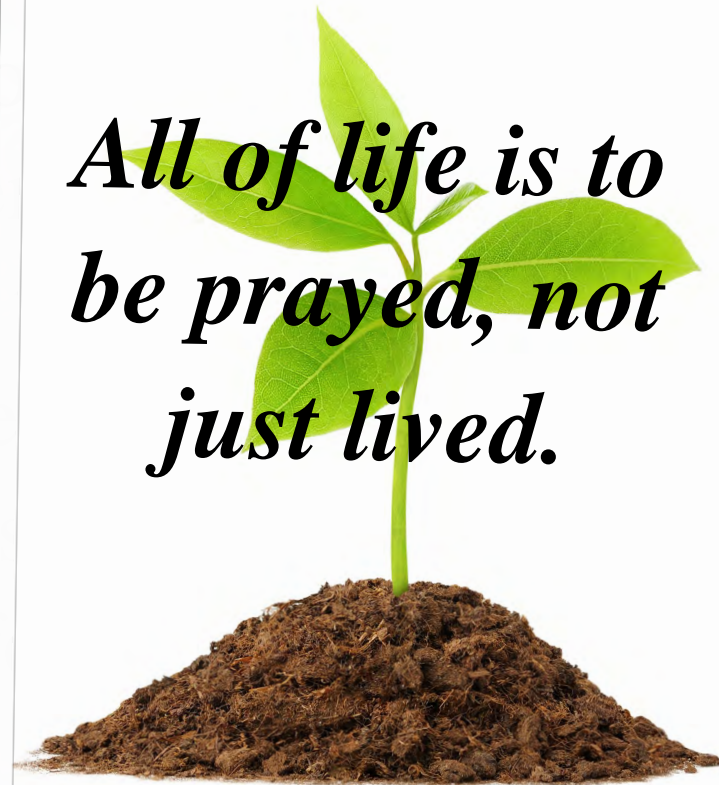
“Praying in the Spirit involves engagement with God and assistance from the Spirit that takes us beyond our immediate concerns. True prayer is a comprehensive activity, involving a variety of modes from praise to lament, from confession to obedience, and from contemplation to intercession. All of life is to be prayed, not just lived.”

(NIV Application Commentary, Ephesians, p. 519)

Ephesians 6:10 - 20

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions
with all kinds of prayers and requests. With
this in mind, be alert and always keep on
praying for all the Lord's people,
also for me, that when I may be given me some
message I may make known the mystery
of the kingdom, which I am an ambassador
of, that I may declare it for the glory of the Father.

*All of life is to
be prayed, not
just lived.*





#1 – Pay attention

“If you seek a religion to make you comfortable, despite all its focus on peace and benefit, Christianity is not it. This is no religion for the weak or the lazy.



#1 – Pay attention

Passive Christians cannot do the will of God; the very label “passive Christian” is an oxymoron. A battle is going on, and contrary to our deception, we do not live on neutral turf. We either live for God or against him. The choices we make either reflect God’s character or the character of sin.



Take Aways

#1 – Pay attention

*As Leon Morris points out, you can drift into sin,
but not into righteousness.*



Take Aways

#1 – Pay attention

For most of us, this means our goal is wrong. We seek a trouble free life. It does not exist. Christians are not called to tranquility. We are called to peace, yes, but peace in the midst of struggle. This peace does not render us inactive; it makes us ready to do God's will.

(NIV Application Commentary, Ephesians, p. 512 - 513)



#1 – Pay attention

#2 – Live it

“As a society, we have spent trillions of dollars arming ourselves against aggression from other countries. Radar, stealth bombers, aircraft carriers, night vision goggles, missiles, and a host of other offensive and defensive weaponry are designed to protect our way of life.



#1 – Pay attention

#2 – Live it

Military personnel track every conceivable avenue of attack to make sure we are safe. On the local scene we hire police forces and security guards, put up lights and fences, and put locks on doors.



#1 – Pay attention

#2 – Live it

But for all this readiness, we post no guards to secure our moral life or the morals of our society. No one tracks avenues of attack. As a result, our way of life is being destroyed.



#1 – Pay attention

#2 – Live it

The attacks have come in our schools and universities, in music and movies, in law courts, and in churches. Christians have been so unprepared they have not even noticed they have been taken prisoner.”

(NIV Application Commentary, Ephesians, p. 513 - 514)



#1 – Pay attention

#2 – Live it

**#3 – Evil is a trap -
avoid it**

