

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 6:10-18 (esp. vs. 17b)

PAT NEMMERS

February 19, 2023

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Did your house have a “family Bible” when you were growing up? Did you ever read Scripture together, or was your Bible more of a decorative item in your home? How do you think this has impacted the way you engage with the Bible now as an adult?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat encouraged us to take up the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word (*rhema*) of the Lord.**

INTRO:

- Pastor Pat reminded us that it’s dangerous to be enamored with non-biblical quotes and literature at the expense of your personal time reading and memorizing Scripture. What are the most meaningful passages/verses/phrases from Scripture to you personally?
- Are you more prone to memorize and remember quotes from the Bible, or quotes from outside the Bible? Why do you think that’s true?

Why You Should Trust the Sword of the Spirit:

1. **Because *rhemas* are truths and truth sets people free**

- If someone asked you to explain the gospel in just a few minutes, what specific passages of Scripture (*rhemas*) would you point them to?
- Have you ever heard someone say, “That might be *your* truth, but that’s not *my* truth” as a rebuttal to the gospel message? How might passages like John 8:32 and 17:17 help you respond to that statement?

2. **Because *rhemas* are facts and facts are stubborn things**

- Do you believe that “When the Bible speaks, the argument is over.”? What do you do when you come across passages or principles in Scripture that you disagree with? Can you give some examples of those passages?
- How do you react when someone points out something in your life that doesn’t match up against Scripture? Read Hebrews 3:12-14 to find out why this is so important.

3. **Because *rhemas* are living words that make dead men come alive**

- What is your regular routine or plan for reading the Bible? How might your routine change if you approached the Bible as the *living* Word of God?
- What will you say yes to, and say no to, this week in order to prioritize reading, meditating, memorizing, and sharing the Word of God?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that you and your group would learn to be more like Jesus by loving the Word of God this week!

