1. Think of some of those things you’ve enjoyed in your life such as hobbies, sports, or school, and recall what it was like as you first got started. What were some of the “battles” you faced before reaching the point where you enjoyed these pursuits?
2. Philippians 2:3-4 (LB): *“Don’t be selfish… Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don’t just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing.”* We are all constantly fighting internal battles between our old nature and our new nature. Which of those battles are the verses above talking about? Instead of selfishness, which quality should we embrace? What does the verse *not* say about humility regarding how we view ourselves? What *does* it say?
3. Ephesians 6:16-17 (NLT): *“In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan… Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.”* How can we best develop our secret weapon of faith? Perhaps it is best done as Paul said in Romans 10:17, *“Faith comes from hearing the Word of God.”* Discuss how you can use the Word of God on a consistent basis to develop your faith.
4. 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (NCV): *“Though we live in the world, we do not fight in the same way the world fights. We fight with weapons that are different from those the world uses. Our weapons have power from God.”* Our weapons to fight life’s battles are provided to us from God through His Word, His people and His Spirit. Discuss how God’s Word, God’s people and God’s Spirit can help us in our fight against Satan.
5. 1 John 4:4 (NLT) *“You belong to God…the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.”* We know that we are depending on God by the depth of our prayer life. Discuss how we get power from God’s Spirit as the verse above says, and share examples of this from your own experience.
6. 2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV): *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”* If you were to live each day from an eternal perspective, how might your life be different than it is right now. Share how you will live each moment, knowing that God is in control and that prayer provides the power that brings you the strength to stand firm and fight the good fight.
7. Consider what it is in your life that’s worth “fighting” for in the coming weeks or months (e.g., better health, a closer walk with God, a great marriage, children who are developing a godly character, spiritual growth, getting out of debt, a daily time with God, hope over despair, victory over fear, authenticity). Pick a “fight,” make a note of it and pray for God’s Spirit to empower you to win this “battle.”