



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The world encourages us to use weapons such as manipulation, coercion, or revenge during a confrontation. Compare and contrast them with the weapons Jesus used during His time on earth.
2. How can you show boldness with humility when you encounter those in opposition to the Gospel?
3. Can you be meek and humble and still be bold? How?
4. Why do you think Paul calls the church to take responsibility to rebuke the false teachers, instead of relying on him to come and do it?
5. How do you identify spiritual warfare? Why do you think it is important to be able to do so?
6. Read Ephesians 6:10-20. Here we find the weapons believers have been given by the Holy Spirit to fight against Satan's attacks. Consider your own life - in which area(s) are you experiencing a spiritual battle, and how are you equipped to fight it?

PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

10 Now I, Paul, myself, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I who am humble among you in person but bold toward you when absent. 2 I beg you that when I am present I will not need to be bold with the confidence by which I plan to challenge certain people who think we are living according to the flesh. 3 For although we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh, 4 since the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments 5 and every proud thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ. 6 And we are ready to punish any disobedience, once your obedience is complete.

2 Corinthians 10:1-6

SUMMARY

Manipulation and deceit should find no home at Tomball Bible Church or in our hearts. These “carnal weapons” were what Paul’s opponents in the churches of Corinth used in their false, underhanded ways.

When we resort to deceit, coercion, and manipulation, we no longer represent Christ but rather a twisted, graceless, and spiritually void image of ourselves. This is not the way of Christ. Rather, we are called to wage spiritual warfare relying on the power of God through the “spiritual weapons” given by the Holy Spirit to rightly represent Christ and fight against evil schemes in the external and internal war zones of our lives.

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