



LESSON 06

MADE TO WIN MORE

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SCRIPTURE - EPHESIANS 6

Ephesians 6:10-12

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

MOVE #6: PREPARE FOR BATTLE

SHIFT #6: FROM MORE STRATEGY ... TO MORE SURRENDER

BIG IDEA: THE CHURCH IS MADE TO WIN MORE.

The Enemy will do everything possible to thwart God's plan for More, mobilizing God's people God's way, as described in Ephesians. But in Christ, we are called to win this battle. To do so, we must consecrate ourselves for Jesus and His mission. Individually, the enemy will attempt to hinder the fullness in us, restricting the expression of this fullness carried to others. Corporately, when Paul speaks of "principalities and powers," this is another way of saying systems of oppression influenced by the demonic. Often these systems are operating INSIDE the church.

Pathway: This lesson consists of approximately one hour of advance preparation work for team members and a 75 to 90-minute interactive group gathering.



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PREPARATION BEFORE TEAM GATHERING

- Read Ephesians 6 and answer reflection questions. (10 minutes)
- Watch Video #16 – Rob Wegner and Randy Frazee on Ephesians 6 (25 minutes) and fill in the answers.
- Read Lesson 6 and complete the discussion questions. (25 minutes)
 - Reflect on and answer the Introduction Discussion Questions.
 - Complete the questions in the church, team and personal assessment sections. These questions will be used for a rich conversation among team members during the team gathering. Be sure to invest time working through these assessment questions.
- Prayer – Spend some time praying for this week's team meeting.

TEAM GATHERING

- Read Ephesians 6 together. (5 minutes)
- Discuss Introduction questions. (10 minutes)
- Watch Video #17 – Case Study of Gateway Church (25 minutes) and write down at least one observation that captured your thinking in the space below.
- Discuss Video #17 and Key Paradigm Thoughts. (10 minutes)
- Team Perspective and Assessment – Discuss assessment questions. (20 minutes)
- Shift #6 discussion and action. (15 minutes)
- Preview Lesson 7 expectations and prayer. (5 minutes)



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INDIVIDUAL

PREPARATION ▶





LESSON 06

INDIVIDUAL PREP

READ EPHESIANS 6 & REFLECT

10 MINUTES

1. Read Ephesians 6. Like the previous lesson, pretend you've never experienced church and that what you read in Ephesians 6 is your first and only exposure to the characteristics of church. What conclusions or assumptions would you make about church?
2. If your church were to change the way it mobilizes God's people based on what you've been learning in this study, how large of a "battle" would you face? Would the changes be evolutionary and relatively minor OR would they be revolutionary and large?
3. What emotions (e.g. fear, uncertainty, etc.) have you felt throughout this study that Satan might be using to hold you captive?
4. What, in particular, about the passage convicted you personally about something in your life and leadership?

ROB WEGNER & RANDY FRAZEE ON EPHESIANS 6

15 MINUTES

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING AS YOU WATCH VIDEO #16.



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EPHESIANS 6: ROB WEGNER

Ephesians 6:10-12

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MOVE #6: PREPARE FOR BATTLE

The battle is not just out there; it is _____ here (the mind).

The battle in the desert temptation wasn't just at the activity level but at the _____ level.

Some demonic systems have penetrated the church. For example, the clergy and laity divide is a demonic _____ system.



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INDIVIDUAL PREP

THE ARMOR OF GOD: RANDY FRAZEE

The book of Ephesians contains the famous Armor of God description and is not written to an individual but rather to the _____ of believers.

We need to reframe the armor in this _____ sense, an _____ unbroken circle of God's people walking arm in arm.

The belt of truth is defined by a community of believers speaking the truth in _____.

The breastplate of righteousness is shown as a community of believers, arm in arm, acting _____ toward one another.

The feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace is perceived as the relational _____ with one another.

Ephesians 2:14

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.





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The Shield of Faith is demonstrated when faith is

a_____.

When we as a community act in faith towards God and each other and when we stand arm in arm together and demonstrate faithfulness and loyalty to each other, it acts as a_____to deflect the fiery arrow of the enemy.

The last two pieces of the armor are_____.

The Sword of the Spirit is demonstrated when the Word is not just a noun, it is a_____.

Pray in the Spirit is shown when the community of believers engages together in God's Word and prays for guidance in their lives. It provides the best_____strategy to ward off the attacks of the evil one.



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LESSON 06

INDIVIDUAL PREP

READ LESSON 6, REFLECT AND PRAY

25 MINUTES

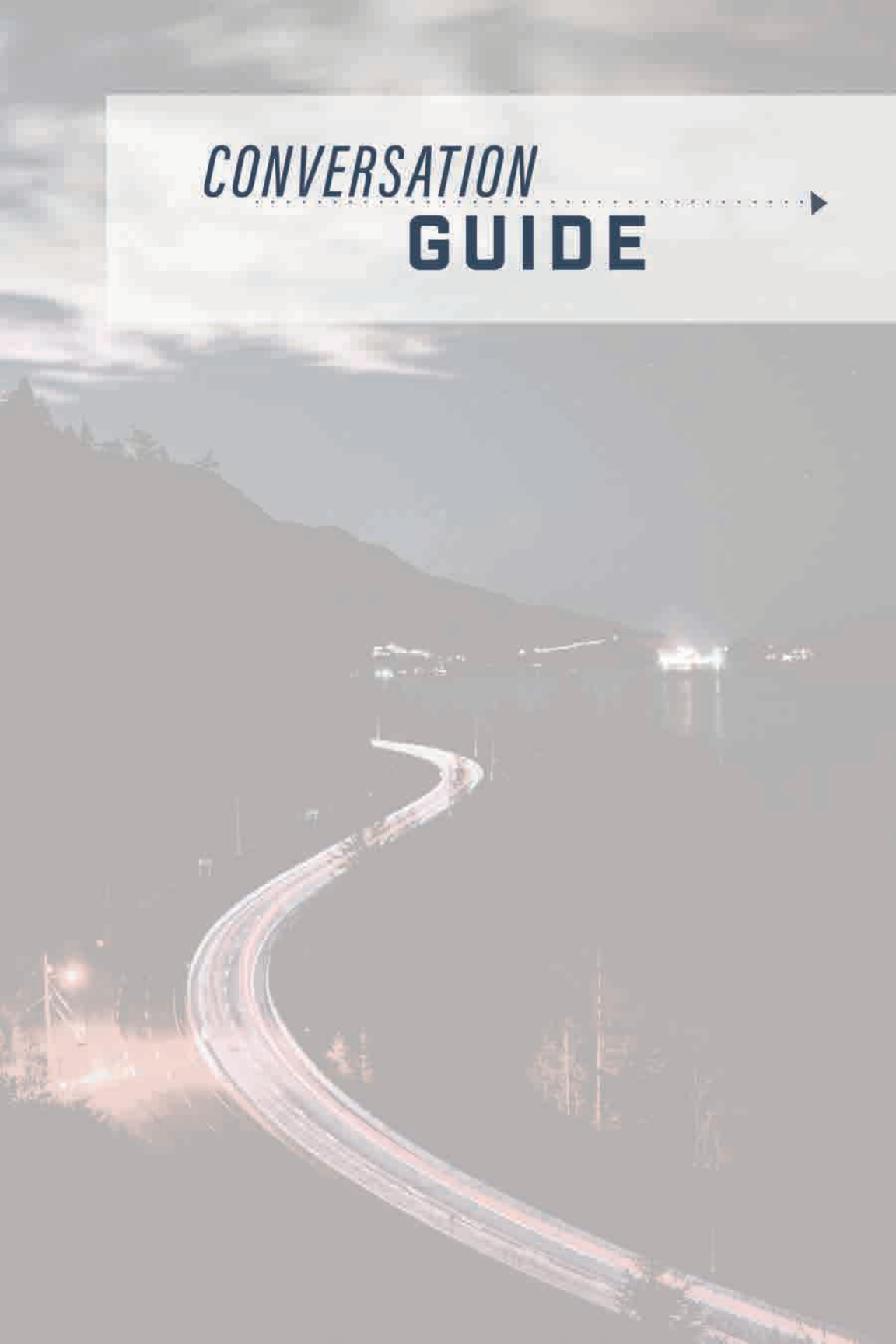
Review the Lesson 6 content from the past few pages (The Key Verses, the Move, the Shift, the Big Idea, your Notes from Ephesians and the Teaching Video Notes) and complete the following:

1. What stood out to you from the Lesson 6 reading material and videos? Why?
2. Flip forward to the Conversation Guide section, review the questions in the church and team assessment inside the lesson. These questions will be used for deeper conversations among team members during the team gathering. Be sure to invest time reflecting on these assessment questions.
3. How well are you living out your identity in Christ?
4. To what degree are you practicing “offensive” prayer against the demonic?
5. How intentional are you in consecrating for battle?
6. Spend some time praying.



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CONVERSATION
GUIDE





LESSON 06

CONVERSATION GUIDE

INTRODUCTION AND REFLECTION

20 MINUTES

Today we will jump into Ephesians 6.

Ephesians 6:10-12

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SHIFT #6: FROM MORE STRATEGY ... TO MORE SURRENDER

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The discussions in this study will be rich and fruitful. Stay mindful of the time, as each question only has three to four minutes allotted. Fully engage the interaction with your team, but be careful not to dominate the conversation. Seek first to listen, allowing others to share their thoughts. Let your thinking be stimulated, but don't feel like the tension in every question needs to be relieved.



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Ephesians 6 together. What are some of your observations about Jesus and the church?
2. In what ways might your current approach to mobilization hold you captive?
3. If making changes in the way you mobilize God's people is a "preparation for battle," what obstacles might you expect?

What do you need to do to prepare?

4. What stood out to you from the Lesson 6 reading, reflection questions and videos? Why?

CASE STUDY OF GATEWAY CHURCH
WATCH VIDEO #17 TOGETHER AS A TEAM.

25 MINUTES



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LESSON 06

CONVERSATION GUIDE

RETHINKING OUR PARADIGM **PREPARE FOR BATTLE**

15 MINUTES

After watching Video #17, spend time talking through the Discussion Questions as a team.

Remember, a paradigm is what you think before you think about it. You'll never experience lasting change without examining those thoughts and allowing the Word and the Spirit to transform your assumptions.

Here are some key paradigm shifting ideas from the case study of Gateway Church. Read through these as a team.

KEY PARADIGM THOUGHT **SPIRIT-EMPOWERED HEALING FOR WOUNDEDNESS AND** **FREEDOM FROM CAPTIVITY ARE ESSENTIAL IN THE BEGINNING** **OF DISCIPLESHIP.**

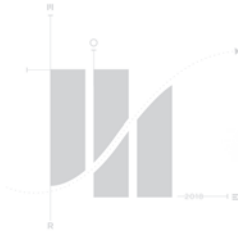
Gateway church exists to see people saved, healed, set free, disciplined, equipped, empowered and serving. It's a process statement. It's a discipleship statement. In our experience, Spirit-empowered freedom from captivity and healing for woundedness are essential to the beginning of discipleship. Many churches are missing the healing and freedom components in discipleship. These two steps are a necessary bridge for most people to cross over into deeper discipleship.

KEY PARADIGM THOUGHT **REST IS THE GREATEST NEED FOR MOST PEOPLE IN A CULTURE** **OBSESSED WITH BUSYNESS.**

We want to minister out of a place of rest, of knowing deeply our identity in Christ. Healing and Freedom Ministries are essential to restoring a gospel-centered identity in people's souls, so they can work from a place of rest. Otherwise, the Church and its programs just add to the sense of busy and fatigue in their lives.



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KEY PARADIGM THOUGHT

FREEDOM STARTS WITH THE LEADER. YOU CAN'T GIVE AWAY WHAT YOU HAVEN'T RECEIVED.

The first step of the church finding freedom is the church's leaders finding freedom in Christ. Each of those leaders needs to create a safe place to hear God. We need to learn how to "sit down" inside of ourselves and learn to receive from God. Prayer is not a monologue but a dialogue. Silence and stillness are necessary for us to find freedom in Christ.

KEY PARADIGM THOUGHT

NORMALIZE THE NEED FOR FREEDOM.

Create a culture of freedom where seeking freedom from areas of captivity is not stigmatized but celebrated. Admit, especially at the leadership level, we are "messed up." We all have permission to admit that, but we don't have permission to remain there. Create a "freedom pathway" where people know the vehicles they can ride in toward freedom. This can include classes and seminars that build to retreats (Kairos). The classes include times of individual counseling and prayer. On the back side of Kairos, many no longer seek or need one on one counseling. Beyond Kairos, freedom groups exist according to certain themes or needs.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM THE GATEWAY CHURCH VIDEO

1. What challenged and confronted you the most?

2. What encouraged and comforted you the most?

3. What tensions are you feeling? Why?



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LESSON 06

CONVERSATION GUIDE

TEAM PERSPECTIVE
MOVE #6: PREPARE FOR BATTLE

20 MINUTES

TEAM NOTES

Have someone on your team continue the “official set of notes” with your answers to the questions in this section and in the subsequent “Shift Section.” These notes will be very helpful to you in Lesson 7.

BIG IDEA: JESUS IS MORE! THE CHURCH IS MADE *FOR* MORE! THE CHURCH IS MADE *TO BE* MORE! THE CHURCH IS MADE *TO DO* MORE! THE CHURCH IS MADE *TO GO* MORE! THE CHURCH IS MADE *TO WIN* MORE!

Remember, a paradigm is what we think before we think about it. At this point in the journey, we hope you’ve done some heavy thinking about what you think before you think.

MOVE #6: PREPARE FOR BATTLE

In each part of the following team conversation, you are asked to look at your context but in a new way. Although two approaches will be presented as contrasts, we fully acknowledge and celebrate the need for both! However, we’re asking you to consider: “Do you embrace both approaches? Is it balanced? Are you biased to one approach?” The dynamic tension we are creating is not an attack, but an opportunity to see something new.



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CHURCH ASSESSMENT

Remember, right now you are making a thoughtful, grace-filled and brutally honest assessment of your church, your team and your lives. You'll collect thoughts on how to apply this along the way, but you shouldn't make any decision on your future direction until your final lesson.

1. Let's go back to our Home Depot analogy from the Introduction. Take a minute and place a check mark next to each of the statements below that apply to your church (ten total).

THE "WE CAN BUILD IT. YOU CAN HELP." APPROACH FOR PREPARING FOR BATTLE

- We understand that most people see church as a building, an event or a program.
- We understand the church needs professionals the people can depend on to minister to them.
- We understand that people have temptations, and we equip them to say, "No!"
- We understand we need to pray regularly against the attacks of the enemy.
- We understand each of us must fight the battle against the enemy.

THE "YOU CAN BUILD IT. WE CAN HELP." APPROACH FOR PREPARING FOR BATTLE

- We regularly declare and train our people to understand that the church is not a building; it's a body. The church is not driven by events but by an everyday mission in all of life. The church is not a program but the people of God. We recognize that language builds culture, so we are careful to communicate that "you can't go to Church, you can only be the Church." We understand that accepting the "normal definition" of Church is actually giving ground to the enemy.
- We understand the clergy/laity divide is the perpetuation of the old covenant at best and the continuation of pagan thinking at worst. As elders and leaders in the church, we recognize our success is measured by how successfully we equip all the people of God to minister and be on mission.



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CONVERSATION GUIDE

- We understand the real battle in every temptation is not at the activity level but at the identity level. Only through a biblically-shaped, spirit-empowered healing of our image of God and our self-identity can we win the battle against temptation.
- We understand the gates of Hell will not prevail against us. We are on the offense in strategic prayer and the prophetic use of the Word of God in teaching and equipping.
- We understand that we can only win this battle together as a body!

2. Which ones did you check? Unpack why.

3. How balanced are you between the two approaches? Which are you biased toward?

4. What percentage of your people settle for a “go to Church” mentality?

How are you addressing it?

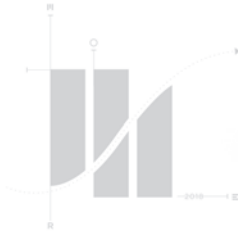
5. What percentage of your people accept or even celebrate the clergy/laity divide? How are you addressing it?

6. How are you strategically addressing the healing of people’s image of God and helping them discover and live in their identity in Christ?

7. How are you on the offense through prayer and the Word? How are you bringing the body together to win the battle?



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TEAM ASSESSMENT

1. How would you rate your commitment as a team to the “You Can Build It. We Can Help.” approach of Preparing for Battle?

2. What, if any, are the obstacles that would keep you from Preparing for Battle?

PURSuing THE SHIfT: FROM MORE STRATEGY ... TO MORE SURRENDER

15 MINUTES

TEAM NOTES

Add your team’s conclusions in this section into the master list highlighted in the previous section. By capturing this perspective now, you will have what’s needed to develop a solid action plan in the next lesson.

The “Shift” section is intended to build on the previous Team Perspective section and help you start the process of moving from good ideas and intentions about “preparing for battle” and shifting from “more strategy” to “more surrender” into tangible action.

In this lesson, you are focused on the shift: FROM MORE STRATEGY ... TO MORE SURRENDER!

The following exercise and questions are meant to get you thinking toward the future and unified on some core conclusions and convictions. For now, don’t be limited by what you think you can and cannot do. Instead dream about a future in which this shift becomes a reality.



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CONVERSATION GUIDE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read through the following distinctions between more programs and more mission fields. Assess where you are as a church on the spectrum of “more programs” versus “more mission fields.”

MORE STRATEGY MEANS...

- We plug people into our discipleship strategy as quickly as we can. Those who need extra grace can seek out counseling.
- We plan and pray for God to grant success to the plan.
- We understand that any strategy is going to be difficult to enact, so we work hard to work the plan.

MORE SURRENDER MEANS...

- We plug people into their identity in Christ, a sense of rest in the Gospel, healing from woundedness and freedom from captivity. This is essential to the beginning stages of discipleship for all people.
- We pray and seek to discern what the Spirit is saying to our community. All planning stems from listening to the Spirit and is sustained through prayer.
- We understand we are in a spiritual battle with principalities and powers that we will not be able to beat through merely human efforts producing merely human results. We actively use the armor of God as a community to win this spiritual battle.

2. Is this a shift that is worth the effort to pursue and to see put in place? How important is it to you? Why or why not?



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3. In five years from now, if you were mobilizing God's people, God's way with an approach that was rooted in "more surrender" rather than "more strategy," what would that look like? What would the characteristics of success be? What benefits? Create a list of characteristics that collectively describes a preferable future.

4. What challenges and obstacles would you face?

5. What specific issues do you know would need to be addressed?

6. Are there actions you already know you'd need to take that can be identified now?

7. Are there any that you suspect are needed but require more investigation? Highlight them in your list.



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**AT THIS POINT, YOU'RE JUST COLLECTING IDEAS.
YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE ANY DECISIONS UNTIL LESSON 7.**

NEXT WEEK

Next week, we pull together all that we've learned into an integrated list and draw conclusions. We will look back at our conversations from Lessons 1 through 6 and seek to identify the things we need to change. We will develop a list of "What's Important Now" (WINS) prioritized actions together as a team.

To prepare:

- Read Ephesians 1 - 6 and journal your observations.
- Look back at your notes from previous lessons, and create a consolidated list of personal takeaways, learnings and things you'd like to change in your own life and leadership based on this study.

CLOSING PRAYER



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