**SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE**

Message Series: The Unseen  
Message Title: Take A Stand  
Speaker: Pastor Kevin Myers  
Date: November 20, 2016

**Icebreaker:**
Share a time in your life that you made the decision to do what was right, even though it may have been a difficult decision. Perhaps it was a situation from your childhood, in school, in work, in a relationship, a decision that cost you time or money, or even a character choice. How did things work out as a result?

**Message Overview:**
Today's message is the fourth in a series focusing on The Unseen war that is being waged around us, as Satan battles for our souls. We are spiritual beings residing in a physical body, and we have to protect and care for not only our bodies, but also our souls. From Ephesians 6:10-20, we are learning that God has not left us defenseless, but equips us with spiritual armor, so that we might resist all the schemes of the evil one. This series has been focused on three particular pieces of that armor, and how they guard the three areas where Satan most intensely attacks Christ followers:

- The Mind: Head (helmet)

- The Emotions: Heart (breastplate)

- **The Will: Feet (sandals)**

In today's message, the focus is on our feet, which are fitted with peace. God will take a stand for us and fight for us. He did so with Elisha and his servant (2 Kings, Chapter 6). When we see God’s power acting in our life and fighting for us, it is an incredible revelation. God is calling us to take a stand for Him as well. Today’s message gives us guidance in how we can take a stand for God, and set our will on following and serving Him.

**Discussion:**
*Leaders: The questions that follow are designed to stir reflection and discussion on this week's primary message points. Please read through them prior to your meeting, so you can be prepared to prayerfully pace your group well. And remember, as leader, your goal is to promote increased biblical awareness, as well as individual self awareness – a combination that with the help of the Holy Spirit, results in revelation and...transformation!*

- PK points out that we need shoes that fit to stand in faith. He emphasizes Paul’s use of the word “STAND,” because we all need a firm foundation. The enemy wants us to lose our
foundation and undo our faith footing. He will attack in marriage, finances, relationships, character, or any area that will undo your life. In what area(s) of your life do you feel the enemy pressures you to lose your footing, and how do you see the battle playing out?

- Kevin encourages us to use our will to take a stand, and guard against our human tendency to slip, stumble or fall. What we stand on is important. Read Colossians 1: 15-20. This passage is considered one of the strongest statements of the nature of Christ and his supremacy found anywhere in the bible.

  In what specific ways does this passage make it clear what we, as believers, should stand on? In what ways does this resonate with you personally?

- In considering the Colossians passage, discuss what you think Paul is relating to us when he says in verse 17: “in Him all things hold together.” How does this apply to the world in general, and to your life specifically?

- Later in the Colossians passage, in verse 20, Paul says that through Christ, God reconciles to himself all things. In your own life, how were you reconciled to God through accepting Christ’s gift of eternal life? Did you see or feel immediate changes?

- As it relates to your individual situation, in what ways do you currently take a stand in your life? Share some specific examples of taking a stand – in character, in marriage, in job, in school, in finances, or in some other area.

  What about an area of your life where God is showing you that you need to take a firmer stand?

- PK talked about how many of us expect life to be problem free as believers. What is your approach to problems you encounter? In what ways can you take a more faith-based approach, and take a stronger stand in dealing with conflict?

- Read Ephesians 6:18. In this passage, Paul talks about praying and taking more ground for the gospel. Why is the practice of prayer so important to taking more ground for God?

- Who is near you in your life that is far from God? How can you fearlessly approach them with the love that lives within you?

**Wrap-Up/Close:**

Close in prayer, asking God to make you fearless in taking a stand for Christ, as he did Paul. For prayer requests, ask group members to share an area of their life where they want to take more ground for
God. Other group members will lift them up in prayer as God shows them how to do that. Over the holidays, encourage group members to share their victories with one another!

**Throughout the Week: (Optional)**

- Write out Colossians 1:15-20. Underline key words that speak to you, and journal about what God is showing you in your own life using this powerful passage.

- Kevin encouraged us to take a stand for Christ with those in our life who are far from God. This holiday season, write down one or two names of people you can pray for and intentionally reach out to to take a stand for God. Ask God to open doors to reach out to this person where they are, showing genuine love and kindness.

- As this series draws to a close, share with an accountability/prayer partner ways that God has revealed to you some specific areas you can pray about with regard to your thoughts (your helmet), your emotions (your breastplate), and taking a stand (your shoes). Try to come up with one specific action you can take in each of these three focus areas.