Under New Management—Understanding the Competition
Ephesians 6:12

MESSAGE TITLE: Understanding The Competition

VERSE OF THE MONTH—Colossians 2:9-10
For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

VERSE OF THE WEEK—1 John 5:4
For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.
Meet
Your friend wasn’t able to make it to church this week. He/She has asked you to summarize the message for him/her. What would you say?

Grow
What scripture was shared during the message?

Were these verses new to you, or have you studied them before?

What did you find challenging or new in these verses when you applied them to your life?

Serve
What was the one thing—the golden nugget—from the message that challenged you, changed you, caused you to really think about things, and/or made you want to take action right away?

What difference has it made, or do you think it will make, in your life and your relationship with God and others?

Understanding The Competition

How competitive are you? When you were growing up (or in your current family), who was/is the most competitive sibling? How did/does that competition affect the family? Who do you find yourself in competition with now?

Read Ephesians 6:12. What struggle do you think Paul is talking about? What is our struggle not against? What is it against? What does it mean to have a spiritual enemy? How would the belief that our enemies are spiritual rather than physical people change your life? Your Family? Your workplace? Your school?

Read 1 John 4:4. What does this verse say about our competition? How does knowing this affect our estimation of our true enemy?

Because Jesus died on the cross, our enemy was defeated once and for all. But we still need to be on alert. What does 1 Peter 5:8-9 say about our enemy? How are we to prepare for an enemy attack? How are we to resist our enemy? How do we do this? Is this something we should do alone? Who should we be standing firm in faith with?

Who do you stand firm in faith with? Are you part of a life group yet? If so, how do you support each other against the attacks of the enemy? If not, what is holding you back from “doing life together” with other like-minded individuals?