

## How to kill a Dalek

Readings: Ephesians 6: 10-20, 1 Peter 5: 8-11

We know that the human race is at war. There are beings that would terrify us, rob us of our life and take our world from us. Daleks are the worst, because they think that humans are inferior and they just want to exterminate all people.

But there is one person who can stand in their way, one person who is known to them as 'The Coming Storm'. This is Dr. Who.

### Do readings.

There are 5 ways to destroy a Dalek.

1. Blind it by shooting out the eyestalk.
2. Use a very powerful energy weapon.
3. Electrocute the Dalek for a very long time.
4. Create a delta wave that will kill all life in its way.
5. Look into the time-vortex and become very powerful.

These are useful things to know to know if you ever come face-to-face with a Dalek, but you had better hope you have the weapons with you at the time.

Dr Who is fun to watch, because we know it isn't real. But Paul writes to the Ephesians and tells them how to fight the real evil that wants to overthrow the human race, to destroy the world.

He tells them to get dressed in armour, but it isn't armour that you need to make out of steel, or energy weapons or delta waves.

It is armour that you get from God, who gives it to you because you are his child.

God gives us 5 ways to fight against evil in our lives:

1. The belt of truth
2. The shoes of the gospel of peace
3. The shield of faith
4. The helmet of salvation
5. The Sword of the Spirit

(Explain how each of these items of armour can be manifest in our lives)

Paul writes to reassure the church in Ephesus, not to scare them. We have all we need to overcome evil and we have all the power (and love) of God on our side. It is the strength of God that makes us strong.

We fight a real battle, but we have the ultimate victor on our side: Jesus.

He is 'The True Coming Storm', the one who is prophesied to destroy all evil, to remove all ill, all fear. It is not always a quick war, but we will have a victory over evil – this is the promise of God in our lives (re-iterate 1 Peter 5: 10).

## Questions for Cell group leaders

Read Ephesians 6: 10-20

- What does Ephesians 6 tell us about HOW we can put on the armour of God (v. 18)?
- If we neglect even one of these elements of the armour in our lives, what can the possible consequences be for others and us? (Eg: we do not keep truth at the centre of our lives).
- When we tire, what does Paul tell the Ephesians to do (v. 13)? Have you ever felt like this? How did you get 'through' that time?
- Think about a Roman soldier's armour. There is very little protection for the back of the soldier. What do you think will happen if we run away from the battle? What was Paul asking the Ephesian CHURCH to do (vv. 18 & 19)? What can we do to help each other as 'the Church'?
- If we think we are 'safe' from attack at the moment, who else needs our prayers (1 Peter 5: 9)?

These scriptures are meant to inspire confidence, not fear. Paul is reassuring the Ephesians that they have all they need to fight and overcome, the 'powers of the air' and against the 'tricks of the Devil' (v. 12). Emphasise this when dealing with spiritual conflict, focussing on the powerful and adequate protection that we already have in the spiritual armour of God, and the victory that we will have in Christ. The only obligation for the Christian is to 'Be ready' (v. 14).