



THEME

Valuable things are worth **Protecting** - what's more valuable than our soul?

ANCHORED TO TRUTH

1 Peter 2:9-12, Proverbs 4:23, Mark 8:34-37, Colossians 3:12, Ephesians 2:10, 1 John 3:1

CONVERSATION

1. What's the best 'war' movie you've seen?
 - a. Which character/person would you want to be like? why?
2. Check out 1 Peter 2:9-12

9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show *others* the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

10 "Once you had **no identity** as a people;
now you are God's people.
Once you received **no mercy**;
now you have received God's mercy."

11 Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that **wage war against your very souls**. 12 Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

3. What is our soul?
 - a. How do you know it's real?
4. Proverbs 4:23 tells us to '**guard our heart**' > we normally guard things that are valuable + can be taken.
 - a. Can our 'heart' be stolen?
 - b. Do you ever *feel* like there's a war happening in the deepest part of you?
 - c. What kind of things "wage war" against our hearts + souls?
5. Is this somehow connected to our struggle with finding our true identity?
 - a. How can losing sight of our God given identity mess with his plan for us?
 - b. How does that usually play out in our everyday life? (losing sight of our God given identity)
6. How do the ideas you've covered the last few times you've met all fit together? (war being waged against your soul, stature vs character, identity)

RESPOND

- Can you ID one 'outside force' taking shots at your soul?
 - What's a practical step you could take this week to guard your heart from those shots?
 - Is there someone you can talk to about this - someone who'd have your back + encourage you?

Pray with and for each other