

Spiritual Warfare

Morning of Worship

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November 20, 2022

► Outline

A. Introduction

(Ephesians 6:10-18)

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. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

B. The whole Armor of God consists of:

1. The Belt of **Truth** represents living with **truthfulness** throughout my life.
2. The Breastplate of **Righteousness** refers to **justification** and **sanctification**.
3. The Shoes of **Peace** with God signify my readiness to **witness**.
4. The Shield of **Faith** symbolizes certain belief in God's **promises**.
5. The Helmet of **Salvation** stands for confident **hope** of eternal life.
6. The Sword of the **Spirit** suggests **capable use of the Bible**.
7. Prayer in the Spirit **activates** God's armor to withstand Satan's attacks.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

Describe a time you felt strong.

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Ephesians 6:10-18.

The apostle Paul listed several pieces of armor worn by Roman soldiers to teach us about the spiritual armor given to us by God. Here is the spiritual meaning of each piece of armor:

The **Belt of Truth** represents living with truthfulness throughout my life.

The **Breastplate of Righteousness** refers to justification (declared perfect righteousness) and sanctification (developing practical righteousness).

The **Shoes of Peace** with God signify my readiness to witness.

The **Shield of Faith** symbolizes certain belief in God's promises.

The **Helmet of Salvation** stands for confident hope of eternal life.

The **Sword of the Spirit** suggests capable use of the Bible.

Prayer in the Spirit activates God's armor to withstand Satan's attacks.

1. What is spiritual warfare?
2. How aware are you that you live in an ongoing spiritual battle?
3. The main enemies of our faith are the world, the flesh and the devil (see Ephesians 2:1-3). How can you tell when you're being attacked in each of these areas?

4. When are you most susceptible or vulnerable to attacks from the enemy? What steps can you take to put yourself out of harm's way?
5. What spiritual battle do you most often face? Which piece of armor do you (or could you) use in that situation?
6. What's the most challenging piece of armor for you to put on? Why?
7. What important lessons have you learned during this message series?
8. Describe a time prayer enabled you to face a battle with strength.
9. Name several examples of how you can use each piece of armor.

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. We hope these practices become a regular part of your life so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

Imagine putting on each piece of armor. With each one, pause and reflect on its spiritual meaning. Then ask God to reveal to you a practical way to wear that piece of armor.

Memory Verse

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.
Ephesians 6:11 (NLT)

Daily Reading

Day 1: Psalm 25:21

Day 4: Romans 15:13

Day 2: Psalm 139:23-24

Day 5: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Day 3: 2 Timothy 1:7-8

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, November 27, we'll focus on Gratitude. To prepare, read **Psalm 23**.

