

Spiritual Warfare, Part 6—In It to Win It!

With Chip Ingram

God has given us the shield of faith to quench fiery darts and combat Satan’s schemes and the alternatives he presents us rooted in the lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

Engaging the Enemy and Winning

1. “Taking up the shield of faith.”

- a. Trusting in God’s _____ . God has my best in mind.

*For the Lord God is a sun and shield:
The Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does
He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
Psalm 84:11 NASB*

The Lord God is a sun and shield: unlimited _____ & _____ .

Goodness of God—the root of which is _____ .

He gives grace: _____

He gives glory: _____

- b. Trusting in God’s _____ and His Word.

He will accomplish what concerns me.

His word does not return void. (Isaiah 55:11)

*God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;
Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has
He spoken, and will He not make it good?
Numbers 23:19*

- c. Trusting in God’s _____ and timing.

His ways are not always easiest, but they’re always best.

*For I know the plans that I have for you,”
Declares the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for calamity
To give you a future and a hope.”
Jeremiah 29:11 NASB*

*No temptation (or trial) has overtaken you but such is common to man;
And God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted
beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide
the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*
1 Corinthians 10:13

- We have to recognize the _____. Stop!
- Combat it with the _____ of God's word. This IS Spiritual warfare!
- When the fiery darts of fear, insecurity and doubts assail us, we need to immediately quote God's word and trust Him.
- Faith is NOT a _____.
- It is _____ in God's character and His promises so that you act according to His word no matter _____ you feel.

2. "And take the helmet of _____"

Definition:

Obvious allusion to the security we have as saved, justified believers, safe from Satan's attacks. Focus on present deliverance from sin!

Metaphor: Helmet put on by _____.

- The helmet of salvation is the certainty of deliverance from sin and the protection of our minds in the battle.
 - Deliverance = _____ Deliverance from sin and protection of our minds.
- It's not something you can do or receive; it's something you must allow God to do in your mind.
 - How? By renewing your mind.
 - a. John 17:17
 - b. Colossians 3:2
 - c. Romans 8:6-8
 - d. Romans 12:2
 - Practically: prayer, worship, music, Scripture teaching, Scripture memory, and fellowship
 - Paul calls the helmet our hope (certainty) of God's deliverance. 1 Thessalonians 5:8

Application

Christians who are not filling their minds with Scripture are like warriors going out to battle without a helmet.

3. “And take the sword of the _____ . Ephesians 6:17

Definition: The sword of the Spirit is the Word (rhema—spoken word, or words given to us by the Spirit of God), to do close, hand-to-hand combat with the lies and deceptions of the enemy. The truth of God’s Word quoted and applied to the specific lie or deception of the enemy will allow you to take “every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5).

Application

Jesus models for us the use of the sword of the Spirit. Matthew 4:1-11

- Implications for us:

Psalm 119:105

Psalm 19:9-11

- Practical considerations—note that the sword is both a *defensive* and an *offensive* weapon.

*For the word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow,
and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12 NKJV

Summary: How to Engage the Enemy in Spiritual Warfare

1. Prerequisite is a _____ spiritual life.
2. Understand your _____ in Christ.
3. _____ when demonic influence may be the cause.
4. Claim God’s promises _____ .
5. Take our authority and position in Christ and _____ demonic forces to cease their activity and depart.

Think It Over

1. When the fiery darts of doubt and deception are aimed at you, which do you find the most challenging: trusting God's character, trusting God's promises and His word, or trusting God's program and His timing? Why? What biblical truth can extinguish those doubts and lies?
2. The helmet of salvation is the certainty of deliverance from sin and the protection of your mind in battle. How do you protect or renew your mind? After today's study, are there additional ways you want to renew your mind?
3. What are specific ways you guard your mind from evil? For example, are there movies, websites, TV shows, books, or music that you do not (or should not) allow into your mind? Are there places you do not go or people you choose not (or should not) to spend time with?
4. In Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus models how to use the sword of the Spirit. After today's lesson and reading this passage, how can you apply this in your life? What verses have helped you battle the enemy?

Live It Out

In today's teaching, Chip outlines five steps in engaging the enemy in spiritual warfare. We want to be fully prepared—ready with our spiritual armor on—to battle with the enemy at any moment. Read through the steps and take self-inventory. Write down how well you are doing with each step. Pray and ask God for His strength and wisdom in each of these steps:

1. Maintaining a healthy
2. Understanding your position in Christ—that you are a child of the all-powerful, living God.
3. Discerning when demonic influence is the cause of your struggle.

4. Claiming God's promises out loud.
5. Taking your authority and position in Christ to command demonic forces to stop their activity and leave.

Are you in it (the word) to win it (the battle)?

1. Review the following verses from Chips teaching. Note what happens, how and the results.
 - John 17:17
 - Colossians 3:2
 - Romans 8:5-8
 - Romans 12:1
2. Look up the following verses, what benefits do you discover about the word?

Scripture	Word (Described as...)	Benefits of
Psalm 119:9		
Psalm 119:11		
Psalm 119: 105		
Deuteronomy 8:3		
Psalm 19:9-11		

What stands out to you in any of these verses and why?

3. Paul's prayer for the church in Ephesus is loaded with truths that will help us in the spiritual battle we are in. Read Ephesian 1:17-23. If possible read it in a few different version. Make a list of WHAT the Father gives us, WHY He's given it to you and HOW it is accomplished.

Verse 17:

Given WHAT: Spirit of _____

WHY? _____

Verse 18:

Given WHAT: _____

WHY : _____

Which is WHAT: _____

In WHOM: _____

Verse 19:

Given WHAT: _____

To WHOM: _____

Verse 19-23

Which is WHAT: _____

In WHAT situation was it used: _____

WHAT did God do for Jesus (through verse 23)

4. IF our Lives are hidden in Christ, Christ lives in me and the life I'm currently living in this body of flesh is lived by faith in Jesus, WHAT are the implication from the above verses in Ephesians 1 when the enemy engages with me in Spiritual Warfare. WHAT is your POSITION in CHRIST and His authority?

5. Who can you enlist to be a Battle Buddy: someone who will spur you on and share in memorization of God's word?