

STRONG IN THE LORD

August 25, 2013

Ephesians 6:17

The Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:17 - and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

Big Idea: We must use the sword of the Spirit to stand strong.

The sword of the Spirit = The Word of God

Review - Ephesians 6:14-17

- Belt of truth, Breastplate of righteousness, Shoes of readiness in the gospel of peace, Shield of faith, Helmet of salvation

The Sword of the Spirit

Metaphor explained

- Short sword
- Close combat
- Defensive and offensive
- Needed to be picked up and used

1. Character of God

God is a God who speaks.

God is a God who speaks and His speaking is inseparable from who He is.

- The Bible is His Word to us. 2 Timothy 3:15
- His actions are words He speaks. Genesis 1
- Creation speaks for God. Psalm 33:6-9
- His speech distinguishes Him from false gods. Psalm 115:5-8

2. Knowing

God's Word is a powerful weapon and we must use it!

God's Word delivers souls.

- Romans 10:14, 17

God's Word defeats temptation.

- Matthew 4:1-11

God's Word demolished lies.

- 2 Timothy 3:16

God's Word destroys sin.

- Romans 8:13, Psalm 119:11

3. Doing

We must use our sword.

Read the Word

- C. H. Spurgeon on John Bunyan: "If you cut him, he'd bleed Scripture."
- Find ways to integrate the Word in your life – commute, exercising, reading

Hear the Word

- Preached, taught, shared
- Life Groups, men's and lady's prayer, church
- Preach to yourself – **M. Lloyd-Jones** *"The main art in the matter of spiritual living is to know how to handle yourself. You have to take yourself in hand, you have to address yourself, preach to yourself, question yourself."*

Memorize the Word

- 24, 365 we can be taught and empowered by the Spirit, we can preach and proclaim the Gospel, become like Christ, root out and remove falsehood, overcome temptation and when we sin we can kill it in our lives, behold God, etc.,