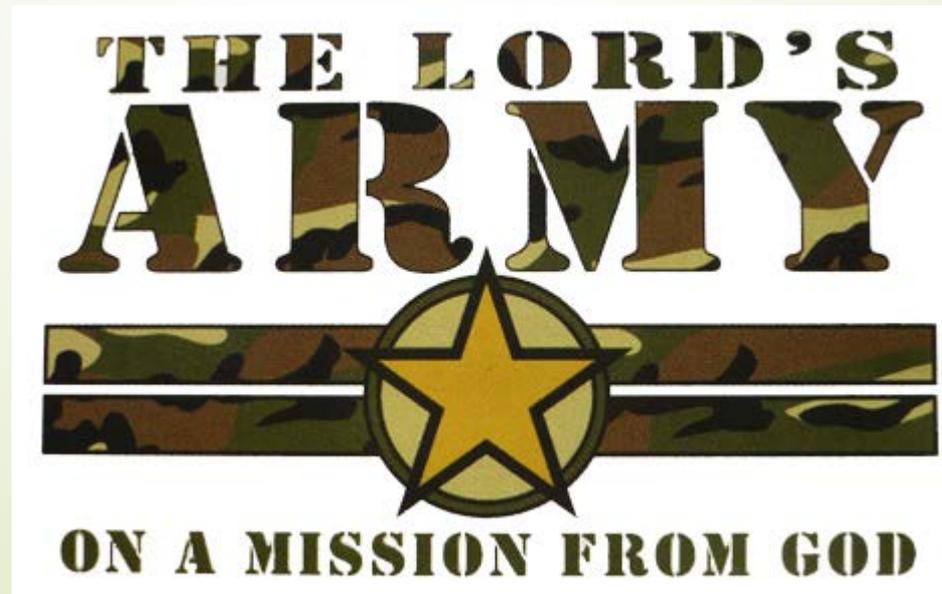




➤ Welcome Soldiers



Concealed Weapon Check



1 John 4:4

"Greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world"

James 4:7

"Resist the devil and he will flee..."

Ephesians 6:10

"...be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Joshua 1:9

...the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Acts 5:29

"...we must obey God rather than men."

Concealed Weapon Check



Psalm 119:11

*"I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you."*

Psalm 28:7

"The Lord is my strength and my shield"



Eighth Bullet



Ephesians 4:27

“do not give the devil a foothold.”



The Helmet of Salvation



Ephesians 6:10-20

- ▶ Verse 17: *“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”*

The Helmet of salvation is personified in Jesus Christ- When Jesus was just 12 years old (Luke 2:41-52), he amazed the Jewish scholars in the temple in Jerusalem. His wisdom was “greater than Solomon” (Matthew 12:42). People were amazed that a carpenter from Nazareth had the kind of knowledge and wisdom that Christ had (John 7:15, 46).



Discussion Questions

John 7:15-18

- What is needed to obtain our wisdom from God?



The Helmet of Salvation is a prerequisite to any kind of ministry-

Christians are facing new questions and challenges for which no guidebook exists. The wisdom of God is our only hope for knowing how to navigate the treacherous waters of this world where Satan's influence is widespread. And the helmet of salvation is our only hope.



Discussion Questions

Acts 6:1-4

- What did the Church in Acts look for when selecting leaders to serve?



Discussion Questions

There are two kinds of wisdom in life: the wisdom of God and the wisdom of men. That which is accomplished for God can only be accomplished with His wisdom.

1 Corinthians 2: 3-5

- What kind of Wisdom does Paul depend on?



Discussion Questions

There is a connection between the Scriptures and the wisdom that leads to salvation; the connection between the Word of God and the helmet of salvation. Every believer who desires to grow wise in the spiritual life must immerse himself in the Scriptures.

2 Timothy 3: 15-17

- What are some functions of the Holy Scriptures?
- What does it mean to be God-breathed?



Discussion Questions

James 1:5

- How do we gain wisdom?

No Christian needs to go through a middleman to get wisdom from God. The helmet of salvation is the wisdom of God in Christ Jesus, and it is available to every Christian who will ask God for it.

- Have you ever asked God for wisdom?



Discussion Questions

1 Thessalonians 5:8

- How does the helmet of salvation provide hope?

We know our enemy and his strategy; and with the armor of God in place, we can stand firm. We are standing firm in the “hope of salvation” that the helmet of salvation provides.



Discussion Questions

The Helmet of Salvation is useful for defending ourselves in a hostile world.

Matthew 10:18-20

- When we stand up for Christ, how do we know what to say?

Acts 4:13

- What does it take to wear the Helmet of Salvation?

1 Peter 3:15-16

- What must we always be prepared to do?
- How are we to speak?



Discussion Questions

What does a helmet protect?

We must protect our mind since the primary battlefield for spiritual warfare is in the mind. We who once lived in the world need the discipline of tearing down the strongholds and arguments that once ruled our lives, and submitting them to the authority of Christ and His Word.





Discussion Questions

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

- What are we to take captive?
- How do we do this?

Ephesians 4:27 says: *“do not give the devil a foothold.”*

- Where does the devil often find a foothold?





Ephesians 6:17

The word for sword Paul uses (μάχαιραν-machairan), is the word for a short sword—akin to a dagger. Six to 18 inches long, this sword was carried in a scabbard on the soldier's hip and was used in hand-to-hand combat. So the sword we have been given is one that we can use when we are face-to-face with the devil.



Hebrews 4:12

- What are the effects of the Sword of the Spirit?

the Bible is alive—. The entire Word of God is a living armory from which we take living swords when forced into combat with our spiritual enemy.

The Sword of the Spirit can also be used to convict and soften the heart.

- What do you do with meat to tenderize it?
- Can you remember being hit by a Sword of the Spirit?



An Example of the Sword of the Spirit in Use

Matthew 4:1-11

- Temptation Number One: The Lust of the Flesh (Matthew 4:1-4).
 - Quoting Deuteronomy 8:3, Jesus pulled a sword from the armory of Deuteronomy to defeat satan.
 - Why was it wrong for Jesus to make food for himself if he was hungry?



An Example of the Sword of the Spirit in Use

Temptation Number Two: The Lust of the Eyes (Matthew 4:5-7)

- Jesus pulled another sword from the Bible, this time from Deuteronomy 6:16.

It is important to note that since Jesus countered satan with Scripture in the first temptation, satan used Scripture (Psalms 91:11-12) in the second temptation.

- What are some examples you have read about or you have witnessed yourself where satan has used scripture to tempt people to sin?



An Example of the Sword of the Spirit in Use

Temptation Number Three: The Pride of Life (Matthew 4:8-11)

The final of the three temptations was an appeal to Jesus' human pride—to become ruler of "all the kingdoms of the world". Satan had a right to make such an offer since he is the ruler of this world (1 John 5:19).

Again Jesus went to the armory and pulled out a sword from (Deuteronomy 6:13). And with that third and final counter attack, "the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him".



Discussion Questions

James 4:7

- How can we get the devil to flee us?
- Every time you are tempted or are under a spiritual attack keep repeating "*but God says.....*"



The Importance of Reading God's Word

- How do you think Jesus knew what to say to Satan when He was tempted in the wilderness?

Jesus shows us that the Old Testament books, which we tend not to read as often, are full of swords of the Spirit! Remember: the whole Bible is the Word of God and if we're not reading the whole Bible, we'll overlook some powerful swords to use against the enemy in spiritual warfare.



The Importance of Memorizing God's Word

I don't think Jesus had a scroll of Deuteronomy in the wilderness in which He looked until He found the verses He needed to counter Satan's temptations. Instead, He knew those verses by heart; He had committed them to memory. If we can memorize God's Word then the Holy Spirit can bring those verses to our mind when we are under attack or any other time we are in need of them. **Psalm 119:11**



Weapons Check

➤ Ephesians 4:27

“do not give the devil a foothold.”

Next week we will begin our study of the Spiritual Disciplines.

➤ Closing thoughts?

