

29 October

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Spiritual authority – week 7



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member the importance of the armour of God in Ephesians 6?
2. What should we do to stand firm against the schemes of the devil according to Ephesians 6:11? (**Put on the whole armour of God.**)
3. Who do we wrestle against in v.12? (**Against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places.**)
4. What is the first armour we should put on in v.14? (**Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth...**)



Let's go deeper

5. What is the second armour we should put on in v.14b? (**...and having put on the breastplate of righteousness.**)
6. What is the third armour we should put on in v.15? (**As shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.**)
7. What is the fourth armour to put on in v.16? (**The shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one.**)
8. What is the fifth armour to put on in v.17? (**Helmet of salvation.**)
9. What armour is used to attack in v.17? (**Sword of the Spirit; Word of God.**)



Let's apply this

**10. Ephesians 6:18; Praying at all times** in the Spirit, with **all prayer** and **supplication**. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making **supplication** for all the saints...

One of the most important things in a battle is communication. Imagine an army going to war without a communication plan, or soldiers being deployed in an enemy territory with no communication plan. Prayer is our communication plan. It is how we talk to God; and how God talks to us.

- How is your prayer life? Do you pray for your family, friends, and leaders?

SUMMARY:

**Spiritual authority:** Week 7

**Read:** Ephesians 6:10 – 18

**1. We need to know our enemy** – Ephesians 6:12

People are not our enemy; Satan and demons are our enemy. Satan was created by God. He is not God; he is not equal to God. He does not share all of God's attributes.

**2. We need to know our Lord** – Ephesians 6:10

The spiritual battle is our Lord Jesus Christ's battle, it is His fight. We are His servants and soldiers fighting with His strength and might. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus to defeat satan. Jesus was strong by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**3. We need to know our weapons** – Ephesians 6:13 – 18

**v.13; Belt of truth; in John 14:6;** Jesus is called the way, the truth, and the life. In **John 8:44;** satan is called the father of lies. Satan lies all the time, and Jesus speaks truth all the time, the belt of truth reminds us that Jesus is full of grace and truth.

**v.14; Breastplate of righteousness;** the breastplate protects our vital organs and especially our heart. In **2 Cor. 5:21;** Jesus takes our sin upon Himself, and gives us His righteousness (right standing before a Holy God). Satan tries to tempt us to sin, but the breastplate reminds us that with Jesus we can fight and overcome sin.

**v.15; Shoes for your feet;** Paul talks about having our feet always ready, wearing the shoes. Paul says these shoes represent the Gospel of peace. Jesus is our Peace; providing peace with God, peace with ourselves and others. The Gospel (good news of peace) is the answer in any battle or war.

**v.16; Shield of faith;** the shield is between our body and the fiery darts of the enemy. In **Rev.12:10,** we read that satan is the accuser of the children of God. When the enemy accuses you with his fiery darts, use the shield of faith to destroy his accusations. Hold up the shield of faith and say God I trust You, and Your Word.

**v.17; Helmet of salvation;** the helmet protects our minds, thinking and decision-making. The battle is the fiercest in our minds. Jesus is our Saviour.

**v.17b; Sword of the Spirit;** the first war was over the Word of God – see **Gen. 3:1.** When we hear, obey, and trust the Word of God, the Kingdom of God advance.

**v.18; Praying in the Spirit;** communication is very NB in any battle. Prayer is our communication plan, we talk to God, and God talks (giving instructions) to us.