

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Ephesians 6:17b - *The Sword Of The Spirit*

Lesson 19

The sixth piece of armor is to be used both defensively and offensively. It is a two-sided sword. The *Word of God* is our armor which enables us to resist the wiles of the enemy designed to provoke within us doubt about ourselves and doubt about our Lord. The use of it not only leaves us *standing*, but it sends him *fleeing*. Celebrate as you ponder this awesome weapon which leaves the enemy speechless.

DAY ONE: Read Ephesians 6:14-19

1. This week we will concentrate on Ephesians 6:17b. Which piece of armor is addressed?
 - a. What does the *sword of the Spirit* represent?

2. Review Ephesians 6:14-17. List the six pieces of armor by filling in the blanks:
having your waist girded with _____
having put on the breastplate of _____
having shod your feet with the preparation of the _____
taking the shield of _____
take the helmet of _____
(take) the sword of the Spirit, which is the _____

 - a. Using your Observation Worksheet, mark each of the six pieces of armor with the same symbol.

3. Draw a stick figure and clothe her with each piece of armor. To allow enough room, draw your figure sideways.
 - a. Share one thing you have learned about the armor since you began studying each individual piece.

DAY TWO: Read Matthew 4:1-11

1. The *word* of God, as it is referred to in Ephesians 6:17, is *rhema*. *Rhema* refers to individual words of God or individual truths/verses in the Bible. Jesus used *rhema* to combat the temptations of Satan in the wilderness. Matthew 4 begins with Jesus being led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. According to Hebrews 2:18 and 4:15, why was Jesus tempted?
 - a. We might tend to credit Jesus' victory over temptation to His deity. Yet, as we look at the *armor* He used to resist the devil in Matthew 4, we see that rather than use supernatural powers, what did He use?

2. Using verses 3-10 in Matthew 4, record Satan's three temptations and Jesus' responses.

Verses 3-4

Temptation:

Response:

Verses 5-7

Temptation:

Response:

Verses 8-10

Temptation:

Response:

3. How would you define a *temptation*?
4. What happened after Jesus had resisted Satan three times? verse 11
 - a. What additional information does the parallel passage in Luke 4:13 reveal?
 - 1.) Why do you think Satan continues to look for opportune times in a believer's life, even though the believer has successfully used the *Word of God* against him?

5. Who came and ministered to Jesus when all was said and done? verse 11

a. Share a time when the Lord ministered to you after a time of battling the enemy?

1.) What did you learn?

DAYS THREE and FOUR: The Word of God

1. Jesus drew from the *rhema* of the Old Testament to resist the *wiles of the devil*. As New Testament believers, we have both the Old and New Testaments. What did David say he did to resist the enemy (*that he might not sin*)? See Psalm 119:11.
2. The weapons of Jesus' warfare, the means David used to resist, are available to each and every believer. Ponder the following verses and next to them record a question/challenge/doubt (*wile of the devil*) initiated by satan that each verse would thwart.

Promise

Wile of the devil

Old Testament:

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
But the LORD delivers him out of them all. (Psalm 34:19)*

*Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me. (Psalm 50:15)*

*I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted,
And justice for the poor. (Psalm 140:12)*

*He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might
He increases strength. (Isaiah 40:29)*

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your
God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold
you with My righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)*

*Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth
by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too
hard for You. (Jeremiah 32:17)*

New Testament:

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, And I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. (John 6:37)

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27)

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. (Galatians 6:7)

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. (Galatians 6:9)

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, (Ephesians 3:20)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (Hebrews 7:25)

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you". (Hebrews 13:5)

then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, (2 Peter 2:9)

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. (1 John 5:11-13)

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (1 John 5:14-15)

Challenge: Share some of your favorite *rhema*.

DAY FIVE: The Sword of the Spirit

1. The *Word of God* has been referred to as a *sword* in other verses of the Bible. What does Hebrews 4:12 say about *God's Word*?
2. John 1:1 refers to Jesus as the *Word*. Scripture speaks of Him as having a *sword* in His mouth. What can we learn about this *sword*?

Isaiah 49:2

Revelation 1:16

3. The *Holy Spirit* used the *Word of God* as a *sword*. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in each of the following verses?

Luke 12:12

Luke 21:15

Acts 6:10

1 Corinthians 2:12-13

4. Read Psalm 19:7-11 and list the benefits of God's Word.

DAY SIX: Review

1. What lessons can we learn from Jesus' example of resisting the devil?
2. Why is it profitable to know God's Word **before** we are attacked by the enemy?
3. In what ways does the Holy Spirit use the *Word of God*?
4. What effect does the *sword of the Spirit* have on the devil?
5. How practically does one *take the sword of the Spirit*?
6. In what ways have you been challenged by this lesson?

*But the word of the LORD endures forever.
Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.
-1 Peter 1:25*