

Victory in Our Spiritual Battles

Here are five spiritual guidelines to experience spiritual victory:

1. Have confidence in God.

When we acknowledge our sinfulness and accept God's free gift of salvation, we stand before Him clothed in Christ's righteousness. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

2. Submit to God and resist Satan.

Although Jesus has given us authority over Satan (1 John 4:4), we can exercise it only as we submit ourselves to God and resist the enemy.

3. Be aware of Satan's strategies.

Satan can take advantage of us if we are aware of his schemes. (2 Corinthians 2:11)

4. Put on the full Armour of God.

Using the metaphor of a well-equipped Roman soldier, we're to prepare for spiritual battle. (Ephesians 6:11-18)

➤ **The belt of Truth:**

Our best line of defense is to be truthful in all we do or say.

➤ **The Breastplate of Righteousness:**

Any sin in our lives leaves us open to Satan's attack. We've been given Christ's righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21), and as one commentator puts it – we practice the "sanctifying righteousness of Christ (1 Corinthians 1:30), in our daily lives.

➤ **The Shield of Faith:**

This Shield of Faith quenches the "flaming arrows" of temptation (Ephesians 6:16), as we believe what God has said about every area of our life.

➤ **The Helmet of Salvation:**

This is our hope of salvation (1 Thessalonians 5:8), which guards us against Satan's sword of discouragement and doubt.

➤ **The Sword of the Spirit:**

This means Scripture is our best offensive weapon against the devil. Matthew 4: 1-11.

5. Prayer:

Sincere giving thanks, praise and honour to Our God, as He blesses us, meets our daily needs, and protects us from the schemes of the devil, constantly throughout our lives.

This mechanism of direct communication with God, expresses our dependence on God (Ephesians 6:18). In the power of Christ, with the armour of the Spirit, we can experience victory.

Remember that our battle is not against flesh and blood but against the unseen principalities of the powers of darkness.

Let us put on the full Armour of God daily, let each of us approach God in honest, sincere pray with confession and humbleness each day and often throughout each day.

Some of this was taken from Our Daily Bread for May 2024.

Remember we will not receive if we do not ask. We also need to remember that we need to ask with right hearts, desires and in sincerity!

Submit Yourselves to God

James 4: 1-3

4 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Our Prayer

- Lord, we acknowledge You as the One, True, Living God
- We pray that Your will be done here on earth, and in us as it is done in heaven
- Thank You for equipping us with the full armour of God, for our protection against the ways of this world, and the schemes of the devil
- Lord, we acknowledge our sins before You today and asked for Your forgiveness
- Help us to remember to thank and praise You always for the blessings in our lives
- Help us through Your Holy Spirit to listen, and to be obedient in a timely manner
- Help us to remember to ask for Your help always first in all situations that arise in our lives, and for all the plans we may have before we put them into motion
- Help us to ask for Your guidance with right motives and sincere hearts
- Lord, help us to us the gifts and talents that you have given us in order to bring glory to You

We pray all of these things in the name of Your Son Jesus.

Amen