

The Armor of God

I. Preparation

- A. Take some time to search your heart and repent of anything you might need to.
- B. Submit to God and commit yourself to obey Him always.
- C. Ask God to fill you fresh with His Holy Spirit.

II. The Armor

A. The Belt of Truth.

1. Ask God to protect you from deception and reveal the truth to you.
 - a. The truth about God (protector, provider, healer, loving, forgiving...)
 - b. The truth about you (forgiven, conqueror, chosen, accepted...)
 - c. The truth about your circumstances (victorious, blessed, **be thankful!**)

B. The Breastplate of Righteousness.

1. Receive what Jesus did for you on the cross (you're righteous because of Him).
2. Ask God to guard your heart and emotions.
 - a. Think about what's lovely, pure, honest, just, good, etc.
3. Let God be in control of your life and surrender to His plans.
 - a. Make Jesus Lord of your relationships, decisions, priorities, etc.
 - b. Live dead to sin.
4. Pray to have the character of Christ.
 - a. To have patience, brotherly kindness, love, forgiveness, etc.

C. The shoes of peace.

1. Cast your cares on God.
2. Ask for His grace and the comfort and guidance of The Holy Spirit.
3. Ask God to help you walk in faith and not in the flesh.
 - a. Set aside selfishness, pride, self-centered motives, bitterness, etc.
4. Ask God to make you an instrument of peace.
 - a. To spread joy, gentleness, goodness, meekness, and love.

D. The Shield of Faith.

1. Pray for the spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical protection of you and your family.
2. Pray for protection against spiritual attacks.
 - a. Against temptation, deception, doubt, fear, sickness, etc.
3. Pray against the works of the flesh (strife, jealousy, lust, apathy...)
4. Ask God to fill you with faith!

E. Helmet of Salvation.

1. Take your thoughts captive! (dwell on God's Word, don't compromise)
2. Ask God to give you the mind of Christ.
 - a. Plead the blood of Jesus over your mind.
3. Ask The Holy Spirit to teach you and help you to grow.

F. Sword of the Spirit.

1. Believe God's word over everything else (even your own experience!).
2. Ask God for understanding while you read the Bible.
3. Ask God for boldness to speak The Word.

III. Lay down your life for God.

- A. Commit this day and the rest of your life to God!