

July 26, 2020

La Jolla Christian Fellowship

Sparking The Flames Of Revival

Episode 9: Spiritual Warfare.

Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

Eph. 6:10-20

¹⁰Finally, be **strong** in the Lord and in his mighty **power**. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, **but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms**. ¹³Therefore, **put on** the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the **readiness** that comes from the gospel of **peace**. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests**. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Warfare is a strategic theme of scripture. Jesus is our captain, but the Holy Spirit is portrayed as the equipper, supplier and trainer of God's troops.

We are called to be equipped and trained soldiers of God: 2 Tim 2:3 *"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"*.

- **Vs. 10** *It is God's intention that you walk in **strength** and **power** and are **fully equipped** to make a stand against the **plans** of the enemy.*
 - **"Put on"** : This is an act of the will.

When we understand who the true enemy of our souls and this world is, it changes our mindset.

- **Ephesians 6 Vs. 12** *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, **but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms**.*

- Understanding and standing against the schemes of the enemy is an **acquired and learned skill**. Key Words: **Experience and Maturity**.
 - **SEEING PRAYER AS A WEAPON: Prayer and especially battle prayer is an acquired skill:**
 - **Romans 8:26-27** *In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.*

Understanding The Devil's Plans

1. **The devil is very smart and takes advantage of your ignorance.** He does this if you allow him through a lack of **skill and knowledge**. Our enemy the devil is strategic; his real power is in his cunningness. He is a master planner and knows how to execute his plans. One way he does this is to keep us ignorant.
 - a. **2 Corinthians 2:9-11** *Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰ Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.*

You cannot live in sin and allow the Holy Spirit to be in control. The Holy Spirit has special sensitivity to sin. If you want to have victory in life the first to do:

1. Consider your life style.
2. Have a constant fellowship and relationship with the Holy Spirit.
3. Pray or pray in the Spirit if you have this gift.

Small Group Questions

1. Do you rely on the Holy Spirit to equip you? Do you ask for resources? Explain how you do this and any results that you have experienced.
2. Putting on the full armor of God is an act of the will. Do you intentionally gird yourself up with God's spiritual weapons? Explain.
3. Do you recognize when Satan is attacking you or are you in the dark to his strategic attacks? How have you experienced attack and how do you fight it?
4. When was the last spiritual battle that you won due to you implementing a strategic spiritual plan?
5. Pastor Adam spoke about **battle prayer**. How would **battle prayer** look different from normal prayer?