

TITLE AND NUMBER: 42. Putting on the armour of God

REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Ephesians 6:10-11, 13-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (v10-11)



Therefore put on the full armour 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. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 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. (v13-18)

What does this Bible passage tell us?

What do you think of when you think of armour? I think of knights on horseback wearing suits of armour and I think of modern soldiers wearing bullet-proof vests. Either way, the knights of olden days and soldiers on the front lines today are going into great danger. They need the best armour.

In this passage, Paul is talking about great danger too. We need to put on the best armour to be 'strong in the Lord and in his mighty power' so we can stand firm against temptation.

How might temptations show up in our lives? Which piece of armour do we need? Someone might say that we are worthless or stupid. Put on the belt of truth: God loves us and values us. Jesus died for us. That's the truth!

It's easy to feel hopeless in the face of this pandemic. What armour could we use? The shield of faith - faith to believe God is right here with us, in the midst of all the difficulties of life.

God gives us all this armour to use. Let's put it on and use it for the battles in our own lives.

Reflections:

- What challenges are you facing at the moment? Look at the armour of God. What will help you today?
- Can you describe a time when it would have been useful to try to bring peace?
- When do you find it hardest to pick up the shield of faith?
- Why do you think Paul calls the word of God 'the sword of the Spirit'?
- Paul tells the Ephesians to 'pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.' How does it make you feel, knowing you can pray to God anywhere, about anything?

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

