

Sword of the Spirit ... The Word of God

- Peter used the WORD of God (Bible) to correct deception and lies that derailed people.

The deception - Putting my trust in God is risky... I can't really trust Him.

Truth: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

CHAIRTIME... HOW do I live this?

"Do what must be done, for God is with you." (1 Samuel 10:7)

Challenge:

- What must be done? Today? BHAG?
- What will you do next? God is with you!

If you have any questions from this series that we could answer for you next week, send your email to Chosen@baysidech.com.

Life Group Homework

For the week of October 28, 2018

MY STORY

1. Besides Jesus who is your favorite Bible character and why?
2. What was your takeaway from last week's study?

QUICK REVIEW

3. Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, what caught your attention?

DIGGING DEEPER

Ephesians 6:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

4. In the introduction, Pastor Craig talked about the (BHAG) the Big Holy Audacious Goal. Do you have one? If so what is it? This is something that requires great faith.
5. What is the significance of the Helmet of Salvation?
6. How does the assurance of your salvation help you?
7. What is the relationship between the Shield of Faith and the Helmet of Salvation?

From the *Life Application New Testament Commentary*

"The **helmet** protected the soldier's head. Helmets were made of leather and brass, or sometimes bronze and iron—no sword could pierce a good helmet. Isaiah 59:17 describes God wearing a helmet of **salvation**. Believers' salvation, already accomplished, will be consummated when Christ comes to claim his own. With the assurance of salvation protecting their minds, Christians can stand against Satan's attacks. As a blow to the head often means death, so a person without hope of salvation will be easily defeated by the enemy. When the enemy, the Devil (1 Peter 5:8), seeks to devour and destroy God's people with empty or evil thoughts, trying to get us to doubt our salvation, we can trust in the protection of the helmet. Our salvation will be accomplished, for God has promised it.

"Finally, the soldier takes **the Sword of the Spirit**—the only offensive weapon mentioned. This refers to the short sword used in close combat. The sharp, short sword was one of Rome's great military innovations. The Roman army was called the "short swords" because of its use of the short swords in winning battles. The sword's double edges made it ideal for "cut and thrust" strategy. The Spirit makes the **word of God** effective as we speak it and receive it. The Spirit gives the word its penetrating power and sharp edge. Jesus' use of God's word in his temptation prompts our use of it against Satan (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10). With the Holy Spirit within, believers have the constant reminder of God's word to use against Satan's temptations. When the enemy, the tempter (Matthew 4:3-4; 1 Thessalonians 3:5), tries to tempt us to do evil, we have the power to send him away with the word of God. The Spirit will bring the words to mind."

2 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV)

⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

8. How could the above verse help us use the Helmet of Salvation?

TAKING IT HOME

The connection between all of these pieces of armor becomes more evident as we unpack the Sword of the Spirit. The sword is the only offensive weapon in this passage. It is the very weapon Jesus used when tempted by the devil in the wilderness.

9. What is the connection between the Sword of the Spirit and the Helmet of Salvation?
10. Before you can use the Sword of the Spirit, you must first do what with the word of God?
11. How can we use the Sword of the Spirit in our lives?
12. In Ephesians 6, how would using the whole Armor of God help you win life's battles?
13. What do you need to start in your life today to accomplish your answer to the previous question?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

14. Write down the personal struggles, or the lies you have believed, and find passages that relate to your struggles. If you have the [You Version Bible app](#) you can do a search for topics. You can also search for Bible passages that relate to your struggles on [Biblegateway.com](#).
15. Read Ephesians 6 and think about how all of the armor is connected and how it would impact your life if you used it consistently.

FAMILY RESOURCES

16. How can you use the Armor of God in your family?
17. In what ways can you model faith, and trust in your salvation and use the word of God?

CHOSEN TO LIVE STRONG

LEARNING HOW TO WIN LIFE'S BATTLES

October 28, 2018 | PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

OUR GOAL! "...able to stand firm..."

(Every bit of ground that we have freely given to God in our hearts)

One BIG THOUGHT: We have a lot to lose.

Ephesians 6:14-17 (NLT)

¹⁴Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

The Shield of Faith

- Raise it!

Scene 1 - Disowning Jesus (John 18)

Scene 2 - Grace and mercy beach (John 21)

Scene 3 - Hearing God's clear voice in confusion (Acts 2)

"Listen carefully! Make no mistake about this¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. ¹⁶No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel."

Scene 4 - Standing firm anyway (Acts 3-4)

"Peter saw his opportunity... he said, 'what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness?' ¹³For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob...who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate...¹⁴You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. ¹⁵You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact!¹⁶ Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes. ¹⁷Friends, I realize that what you and your leaders did to Jesus was done in ignorance."

Helmet of Salvation

- This truth guards our thoughts and resolve.
- **II Corinthians 10:5** "Taking every thought captive..." vigilance to keep my mind **CLEAR**.