



## HANDLING THE TRUTH

December 2 & 3, 2023

**One offensive piece of armor - The sword of the spirit.**

### **Ephesians 6:10-18 (NLT)**

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

**The Sword of the Spirit is - The Word of God revealed to us by the Holy Spirit.**

### **Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)**

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

### **John 1:1-4 (NLT)**

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

# HOW TO HANDLE THE SWORD OF TRUTH:



## **Familiarize myself with the word of God.**

### **Matthew 4:4, 7, 10 (NLT)**

But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ... Jesus responded, “The Scriptures also say, ‘You must not test the Lord your God.’” ... “Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’”

## **How to Familiarize Myself with the Bible:**

- **Read it consistently**

### **1 Timothy 4:13 (NLT)**

Until I get there, focus on reading the Scriptures to the church, encouraging the believers, and teaching them.

- **Study it faithfully**

### **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- **Listen to it constantly**

### **Matthew 13:16 (NLT)**

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear.”

- **Memorize it joyfully**

### **Psalms 119:11 (TPT)**

I consider your Word to be my greatest treasure, and I treasure it in my heart to keep me from committing sin's treason against you.

- **Meditate on it daily**

### **Joshua 1:8 (NLT)**

Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

- **Apply it continuously**

### **James 1:22-24 (NLT)**

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.



## **Faithfully share the gospel with the lost.**

### **Philemon 1:6 (ESV)**

...and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.

### **Matthew 4:19 (NLT)**

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

### **1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (ESV)**

To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.



## **Fortify my armor with a faithful prayer life.**

### **Ephesians 6:19-20 (NLT)**

And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

### **Jeremiah 33:3 (NLT)**

Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come.

### **Philippians 4:6-7 (TPT)**

Don't be pulled in different directions or worried about a thing. Be saturated in prayer throughout each day, offering your faith-filled requests before God with overflowing gratitude. Tell him every detail of your life, then God's wonderful peace that transcends human understanding, will guard your heart and mind through Jesus Christ.

## **God's Voice versus Satan's Voice:**

### **God's Voice**

Stills you  
Leads you  
Reassures you  
Enlightens you  
Encourages you  
Comforts you  
Calms you  
Forgives you  
Loves you

### **Satan's Voice**

Rushes you  
Pushes you  
Frightens you  
Confuses you  
Discourages you  
Worries you  
Obsesses you  
Condemns you  
Hates you



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