

"The Sword Of The Spirit"

Ephesians 6:17-18, 2 Corinthians 6:2-10
Tony Toth, Nov 17, 2024

Ephesians 6:17-18 "and take ... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance,"

I. THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

A. Infallible means TRUSTWORTHY

B. Inerrant means TRUTHFUL

C. Inspired means GOD-BREATHED

2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

II. PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

A. An Active and Open COMMUNICATION

Luke 18:1 "Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."

B. Pray In All OCCASIONS, In All PLACES, In Every CONDITION, For All THINGS

Acts 1:14 They "continued... in prayer and supplication"

Acts 2:42 They "continued steadfastly ...in prayers"

Acts 6:4 They gave themselves "continually to prayer"

III. ENDURE, PERSEVERE, & STAND FIRM

A. Endure In All CIRCUMSTANCES

2 Corinthians 6:2-5 "... Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation...by **great endurance**, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger;"

Romans 15:4 "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

B. Persevere By Having The Right STRATEGY

2 Corinthians 6:6-7 "by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God;"

Ephesians 6:18 "keep alert with all perseverance,"

C. Stand Firm Through The OUTCOMES

2 Corinthians 6:8-10 "through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything."

Ephesians 6:10-18 "Be strong in the Lord...stand against...withstand... to stand firm... stand therefore..."

THE NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

- 1. Which Tool Do You Feel More Comfortable With?** Discuss with family and friends this week which is easier and why: training in the Word or training in Prayer?
- 2. Prepare to use your sword:** It starts with a DESIRE for God's input. DEVELOP a plan to get it. DESIGNATE a time and place. DIG into God's Word.