

**Full Armor of God Week 7: Sword of the Spirit
Sunday March 15th, 2020**

Ephesians 6:10-11 (NLT, pg. 980) 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.

Ephesians 6:13-18 (NLT, pg. 980-981)

Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:17 (NLT) Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The sword is associated with the _____ and/or words.

Psalms 64:3 (NLT, pg. 481) They sharpen their tongues like swords and aim their bitter words like arrows.

Revelation 1:16 (NLT, pg. 1041) [Jesus] held seven stars in his right hand, and a sharp two-edged sword came from his mouth. And his face was like the sun in all its brilliance.

The sword is a symbol of God's _____.

Isaiah 49:2 (NLT, 606) He made my words of judgment as sharp as a sword. He has hidden me in the shadow of his hand. I am like a sharp arrow in his quiver.

Jesus' _____ is like a sword.

John 1:14 (NLT, pg. 881) So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

Luke 2:33-35 (NLT, pg. 851) Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

Matthew 10:34 (NLT, pg. 808) "Don't imagine that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came not to bring peace, but a sword."

Jesus _____ the use of the sword in the wilderness against the enemy.

Matthew 4:1-11 (NLT, pg. 801)

You must know it well for it to be _____.

The enemy uses scripture out of _____.

Scripture is _____ offensive and defensive.

How do I use the sword in my faith journey?

I _____ my weapon.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT, pg. 1002) All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

I _____ my weapon.

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT, pg. 1011) 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.

I _____ with my weapon.

Joshua 1:8-9 (NLT, pg. 181) 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. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

I _____ my weapon.

Psalms 119:11 (NLT, pg. 510) I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Final Thought: God's word is a powerful weapon that every warrior for Christ needs to take _____. Is the sword of the Spirit a part of your daily journey?

Full Armor of God week 7 Discussion Questions

Have you ever handled and/or used a deadly weapon? (gun, bow and arrow, sword, etc.) What kind of training did you receive? How did you feel with that weapon; empowered, scared, the weight of responsibility, etc.? Review the ways we need to treat our sword/God's word in our lives: respect my weapon - 2 Timothy 3:16-17, trust my weapon – Hebrews 4:12, train with my weapon – Joshua 1:8-9, carry my weapon – Psalm 119:11. Which one has helped you the most in your faith journey? Which one do you need to work on the most in your journey?

Read Matthew 4:1-11. This is a very practical example of the spiritual warfare we are supposed to be able to withstand. What do you learn about the enemy from this text? What do you learn about the sword of the Spirit from this text? What other lessons can be learned from this text?

Have you ever thought of Jesus' life as a sword (the word became flesh) before? Compare Luke 2:33-35 and Hebrews 4:12-13. Are these two scriptures related? Why or why not? How does this concept connect to the fact that the sword is not only our only offensive weapon, but also part of our defense to stand firm? Explain. Read Matthew 26:52. This verse can be somewhat confusing, considering that Jesus told the disciples to bring a sword, and then he reprimands Peter for using it. What lesson is Jesus trying to teach Peter in this moment? How does this lesson help you in your faith journey?