



**GROW
IN
GRACE**
NEWSLETTER

Volume 45, No. 42, October 20, 2020 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!"***

**OCTOBER 1-31, 2020— A MONTH of PRAYER
and FASTING!**

**IN PRAYER: PUT ON The WHOLE Armor of
God!** (Edited from KJOS Ministries)

GOD'S WILL FOR US: Ephesians 6:10-18— "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

"Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all

perseverance and supplication for all the saints...." Ephesians 6:10-18

What is the Armor of God? God's armor brings victory because it is far more than a protective covering. **It is the very life of Jesus Christ Himself.** "Put on the armor of light," wrote Paul in his letter to the Romans, "**...clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.**" (Rom 13:12-14)

When you do, He becomes your *hiding place*, and *shelter* in the storm--just as He was on behalf of David, in the Old Testament era. Hidden in Him, you can count on His victory, for He not only covers you as a shield, **He also fills you with His life.** ***"I am the vine; you are the branches," said Jesus. "If a man abides in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*** (John 15:5)

Remember, God has promised us victory in the midst of trials, not immunity from pain. **SO, "do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you, but rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ..."** (1 Peter 4:12-13)

YES, "... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.... For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers.... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37-39)

This wonderful truth has become reality to all who believe and follow Jesus. When you put on His armor, His life surrounds you, keeping you safe, close to Himself, and free to be His precious friend and trusted companion. So "put on Christ." (Galatians 3:27)
He is your victory!

PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF CHRIST!

The first part is truth-- God's revelation of all that He is to us, all that He has done for us, and all that He promises to do for us in the days ahead. This enduring truth is written in the Bible, revealed by the Holy Spirit, and realized through Jesus Christ. It cuts through all the world's distortions, deceptions, and compromises. **When we study, memorize, live, and follow truth, it enables us to see the world from God's high vantage point.** Putting on the first piece of the armor means feeding on truth through daily Bible reading and making it part of yourself.

| God's Armor | Know the Truth about... | Affirm key Scriptures |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Belt of TRUTH | God | Deut. 4:39; Psalm 23:1; 18:1-3 |
| Breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS | The Righteousness of Jesus in you | Psalm 100:3; Rom. 3:23-24, 6:23; Gal. 2:20-21; Phil. 3:8-10. |
| Sandals of PEACE | Inner peace and readiness | Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:14; John 14:27, 16:33, 20:21. |
| Shield of FAITH | Living by faith | Rom. 4:18-21; Heb. 11:1; 1 Pet. 1:6-7 |
| Helmet of SALVATION | Salvation through Christ today and forever | Each day: Ps. 16, 23; Heb. 1:3-6 For eternity: 2 Cor. 4:16-18; 1 Thess. 4:17; 1 John 3:1-3 |
| Sword of the spirit GOD'S WORD | God's Word countering spiritual deception and | Heb. 4:12; Matt. 4:2-11; 1 Pet. 3:15; Ps. 119:110-112 |

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PUT ON the "full armor"-- and thank Him for what He has shown you in His Word. **Know** the Scriptures behind your prayer so that your words and faith are grounded in the **authority of the Bible**. (Some of those verses are listed in the chart above.) **Then pray through each piece. You can use the following prayer as an outline:**

The belt of truth: Thank you, my Lord, for showing me the *truth* about yourself. Thank you for reminding me that You are the only God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the King of the universe, my Father who loves me, and my Shepherd who leads me. You are my wisdom, my counselor, my hope, and my strength. You are everything I need each day.

The breastplate of righteousness: Thank you for showing me the truth about myself-- that on my own I could never be good enough to live in your presence. Thank you for taking *my sins* to the cross and FOR GIVING ME *your righteous life*. LORD, show me any sin that I need to confess right now, so that nothing will hinder me from being filled to overflowing with your Spirit. [Take time for confession] Thank you for forgiving me and for filling me with your **righteous** life.

The sandals of peace: Thank you for the **peace** you give me when I trust and follow you. Show me how to help others find that peace.

The shield of faith: Thank you for GIVING and EMPOWERING me with **faith** in you. I choose to count on everything you have shown

me about yourself-- and everything you have promised me in your Word.

The helmet of salvation: Thank you for promising me **salvation** both for today's battles and for all eternity.

The sword of the spirit, the Word of God: Thank you for the scriptures you have given me to memorize. Please show me which one(s) you want me to use to cut through deceptions and experience your victory in any battle I may face today.

How can I explain the armor to my children?

In a world where public schools, television, movies, and popular music all offer tempting counterfeits of what God promises His people, there is only one safe place for our children: in the loving arms of the Shepherd. So train your children "in the way they should go" (Proverbs 22:6) and help them to wear the "full armor of God" each day.

First, read Ephesians 6:10-18 together, then review the chart at the end of this section. It shows why the parts of armor will expose and resist all the main lies of New Age and Neo-pagan religions. **Memorize** scriptures that show the truth about God and His righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation. **Explain** that these verses are Scripture *swords* that counter the main lies of the enemy.

Remember, when children know the truth about God, they won't trust popular counterfeits. Knowing the source of their righteousness, they won't believe sanctification without the cross. Knowing God's way to peace and salvation, they won't choose occult paths. **Remind** your children that the armor is not like a

magic shield they can casually slip on in order to be safe anywhere they want to go. **One day, my youngest son asked** if he could see a popular movie with some friends. "No. I'd rather you didn't," I told him. "Why not?" he asked. "Because it makes occultism seem both fun and right. Even though your friends know it's fiction, the story and images leave the impression that you can win in life by using occult rituals to get supernatural power. Not only does the Bible tell us occultism is evil, it also shows how it destroys people." I started to look up Deuteronomy 18:9-13. "*But I'll put on the armor" before I go in the theater, said David.*" **"It won't help. When you go somewhere that you shouldn't, you disobey God and "take off" the breastplate of righteousness.** You're never safe if you go somewhere Jesus wouldn't want you to go." **David got the message and stayed home.** He knew that by himself he was no match for occult forces. But by wearing the special protection God offers us through His armor, he would be able to stand firm against satan's strategies.

To help your children put on the armor, follow the scriptures and outline shown in the previous section. Make sure they *know* the Scriptures behind the prayer so that their words will be based on God's Word. Then pray through the pieces of the armor, simplifying each part to fit the ages of your children.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

| EACH PIECE | CHRISTIAN PARADIGM | GLOBAL PARADIGM |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <i>Put on:</i> | <i>Know and affirm:</i> | <i>Recognize and resist:</i> |
| Belt of TRUTH | His sovereignty, love, wisdom, and holiness. (<i>Deut. 4:39;</i> | Pantheistic, monistic, polytheistic gods and goddesses. |

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| | <i>Ps. 18:1-3)</i> | |
| Breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS | Jesus Christ and His blood, which cleanses us from sin. The cross which frees us from bondage to selfish nature. | The natural goodness, connectedness, and sacredness of all life. |
| Sandals of PEACE | Our peace through our union and ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ. | Peace through occult practices and union with a cosmic force or nature spirits. |
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| Shield of FAITH | Our continual trust in God, His Word, and His promises. | Trust in Self, inner wisdom, dreams, visions, gods, goddess, cosmic force, coincidences, etc. |
| Helmet of SALVATION | God's promises of daily and eternal salvation in Jesus Christ. | Evolving spiritually by growing in consciousness staying tuned to the cosmic mind. |
| Sword of the Spirit His WORD | The power of God's Word to counter deception and | The power of thoughts, words and affirmations to change |

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| triumph over spiritual foes. | reality and direct spiritual forces. |
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Above article and charts are edited from <http://www.crossroad.to/index.html>

Great Grace to All! www.southsidegallatin.org James Bell



Christ himself is the Christian's armory. When he puts on Christ, he is then completely armed from head to foot. Are his loins girt about with truth? Christ is the truth. Has he on the breastplate of righteousness? Christ is our righteousness. Are his feet shod with the Gospel of peace? Christ is our peace. Does he take the shield of faith, and helmet of salvation? Christ is that shield, and all our salvation. Does he take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God? Christ is the Word of God. Thus he puts on the Lord Jesus Christ; by his Spirit fights the fight of faith; and, in spite of men, of devils, and of his own evil heart, lays hold of eternal life. Thus

Christ is all in all.

– John Bunyan

NEWS NOTES:

EVERY Saturday, * 8:00am — Men's Bible Study: New Studies— *THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS!* (Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!)**

***** NEXT Ladies Bible Study— Tuesday, October 27, 11:00am: Women of the Bible! (Rahab! Joshua, chapter 2 & 6)**

SUNDAYS— OCTOBER 25 * Sunday School at 9:30am:**

Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes.

***** WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

October 25, 6:00pm- Church Wide DISCIPLESHIP... presently an important STUDY on PRAYER, using R.C. Sproul videos...

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... NOW, Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE:

6:30pm— Come in by the back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning

***** Adult Prayer Service Service***

***** Young FAMILIES Prayer***

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

ON NOVEMBER 4, 6:30pm— EVERYONE PLEASE MEET IN THE AUDITORIUM! Missionaries Tom and Linda Schreeder will be with us to give a missionary report! IT IS VITAL FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH FAMILY TO BE PRESENT!

***** HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES**

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are presently in a state of high immune deficiency **or if** (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; **or if** you have • **Fever**; • Coughing; • • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], **please stay home!]**

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... or gloves... WE do not require; we WILL NOT provide such. WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM... as to ‘social distancing’— 6ft apart... give sensitivity and respect one to another.

ADDED NOTE: *In addition to carefulness, and good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: so as to SEEK TO HAVE A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM... I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITIMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber.*

3. LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene. IF you use the restrooms— please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.

IT IS A MATTER OF SAFETY for all, (ESPECIALLY for SENIOR ADULTS), CHILDREN ANY WHERE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING— No unsupervised Children!

FOR THOSE AT HOME: TO RECEIVE THE 10:45am LIVE STREAMING of the worship service of October 18... GO TO: www.southsidegallatin.org [You can also connect to our YouTube page for past messages & Bible Studies!]

LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or ONLINE GIVING:

SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066

OR, you may choose to GIVE, via ONLINE GIVING
<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>