

“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.” Ephesians 1:13-1 (also see John 14:16-18, 26; 16:5-15)

7. _____ Countering the enemy’s weapon of _____ by knowing I can pray for others and they will pray for me.

“So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way.” Ephesians 6:11 (The Message)

A Spiritual Armor Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your powerful grace and for providing me with the full armor of God.

By faith, I put on the belt of truth. Help me to read, study, memorize, and meditate on your truth so I can counter the enemy’s lies.

By faith, I put on the breastplate of righteousness. Thank you for the righteousness of Christ. Help me to live a righteous life by your power.

By faith, I put on the shoes of the gospel of peace. Help me to be ready to be a peacemaker in this world as I stay on message: You want to reconcile all people to yourself by grace through faith in your son Jesus Christ.

By faith, I take up the shield of faith. I trust in you and your promises and will not add fuel to the enemy’s fiery darts of worry.

By faith, I put on the helmet of salvation. Protect my mind from dwelling on my sinful past. Keep me from despairing that I will ever be good enough. Thank you for the finished work of Christ as he gave himself on the Cross.

By faith, I take up the sword of the Spirit. Help me to see the incomparably great power of the Holy Spirit that is available to me. Thank you for your Word inspired by the Holy Spirit.

By faith, as I am guided by the Holy Spirit, I will pray for myself and those in need.

Help me today Lord to live and walk in the victory you have won for me through your death and resurrection! Thank you that the one who lives in me is greater than the one who is in the world. In Jesus’ name, amen.

For Daily Video Devotionals go to: <http://unleashinghope.com/weeklymedia/>

Daily Devotional Code for Week 7—Play Great Defense: H22GJTRN

Memory verse for Week 7:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.”

Ephesians 6:10-11

50 Days of UNLEASHING HOPE

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, March 29, 2015

Play Great Defense Week 7

Review

Week 1 – Recharge Your Batteries

Develop your supply lines:

Supply line #1 – Invest in your own growth.

Supply line #2 – Understand the power of worship.

Supply line #3 – Unleash the Bible into your life.

Supply line #4 – Build Great Relationships.

Supply line #5 – Pay attention to whose voice you are listening to.

Memory verse for Week 1:

“But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:31

Week 2 – Raise Your Expectations

5 Attitudes and Actions that will help you become a person who expects great things:

A) Believe impossible things are possible.

B) Believe that God has better days ahead.

C) Realize the power of perspective.

D) Replace F.E.A.R. with F.A.I.T.H. (see page 66 in the HQ book)

E) Replace “What if” with Why not?”

Memory verse for Week 2:

“Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.’” Matthew 19:26

Week 3 – Refocus on the Future

The 5 benefits of focusing on what you can become versus what you are:

Benefit #1 Passion Replaces Apathy and Discouragement

Benefit #2 You Experience Great Comebacks

Benefit #3 Grace Frees You; Future Vision Fuels You

Benefit #4 You Are Set Free to Dream!

Benefit #5 Forward Momentum Stabilizes and Energizes

Memory verse for Week 3:

“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13-14

Week 4 – Play to Your Strengths

How do I get started using my gifts?

STEP 1: Dedicate my life to Christ

STEP 2: Eliminate any distractions

STEP 3: Evaluate my areas of giftedness

STEP 4: Activate my gifts by starting to serve

Memory verse for Week 4:

“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:6-7



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Week 5 – Refuse to Go it Alone

The five relationships we all need: Vision Casters, Soul Sharpeners, Model and Mentors, Heart Healers, Tail Kickers

Memory verse for Week 5:

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Week 6 – Replace Burnout with Balance

7 questions to help bring my life back into balance:

#1 Is My Pace of Life Out of Control?

#2 Am I Running on Empty?

#3 Am I Dropping the Right Balls?

#4 Have I Stopped Believing I'm Invincible?

#5 When I Relax, Do I Feel Guilty?

#6 Do I Understand That God Makes a Big Deal of This?

#7 Am I Putting First Things First?

Memory verse for Week 6:

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10

Play Great Defense

Ephesians 6:10-18

Three errors to avoid related to the battle:

1. Don't be _____; I have an _____!

“Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” Ephesians 6:11

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” 1 Peter 5:8

2. Don't be _____; my battle is not against _____!

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” Ephesians 6:12

3. Don't be _____; take steps to ensure _____!

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” Ephesians 6:13

Seven essential parts of the full armor of God:

1. The belt of _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by knowing the Word of God.

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” John 8:44

2. The breastplate of _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by knowing I am holy in God's sight.

“Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.” Ephesians 1:4

3. The shoes of the _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by staying on-message at all times.

“But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough.” 2 Corinthians 11:3-4

4. The shield of _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by believing God will keep his promises.

“The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.” Psalm 145:13b

5. The helmet of _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by knowing I am saved by grace.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.” Galatians 5:1

6. The sword of the _____ Countering the enemy's weapon of _____ by knowing I have God's Word and a powerful Helper—the Holy Spirit!