



SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-17

TITLE: The Right Weapon for the Battle

How would you react if you saw a plumber come to your home with a Slinky to fix your sink?

How would you react if you saw a police officer pull out a bouquet of flowers, instead of handcuffs to make an arrest?

How would you react if your pastor said, “Let’s not pray about it; let’s strategize!”?

You’d think these people don’t get it. They don’t understand the battle they’re in.

The Apostle Paul knew that our real battle isn’t a natural battle; It’s a supernatural battle. Therefore, we need the right weapon for the job. What do I mean? Let’s listen to Paul again in Ephesians 6:10-17 (NLT):

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² 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.

¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

I wish I had more time to unpack the Armor of God. But today, I really want us to hone in on what Paul said in verses 11 and 12. Paul tells us to “put on that armor so we can stand firm against the strategies of the devil”.

Well, why Paul? Why do that? Because Paul wants us to know that while the battles we face have physical symptoms, they are actually spiritual battles. We like superhero movies. We like ghost hunter shows. We like Christmas miracle tales. But we doubt the reality and seriousness of the spiritual battle.

You don’t take a water gun to a real war. You don’t wear a snowsuit to the beach in summer. That’s why we don’t bring human weapons to a spiritual battle.

So here is my challenge for you today: Get familiar with the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Bible. May we treat our Bibles like our phones: Always in our hands. In our face. And in our lives.

Today, get back to the Bible. Read it. Hear it. Study it. Memorize it. Use it. And then, obey it.