

A NEWSTORY CHURCH SERIES

SPIRITUAL WARFARE



Pastor Daniel Lee

Part 4: The Helmet & Sword

Icebreaker: What is something fun that you like to do such as an activity or sport that requires you to wear a helmet (e.g., softball, zip-lining, mountain biking)? Do you feel the helmet's necessary?

1. Take a moment and reflect on this past week. Can you identify times when you were in spiritual warfare (remember, that it's not against flesh and blood, so please don't bring up specific people as the source of spiritual warfare. But if you did have conflict with someone, maybe see how the conflict originated or grew because of spiritual warfare)? Were you able to put on the armor of God such as the belt of truth and the breastplate of righteousness? If yes, how did they help?

2. Take some time to discuss similarities and differences with the convictions from the Holy Spirit (John 16:8-11) and the accusations from the devil (Revelation 12:10). Why do you think the devil uses this strategy in spiritual warfare (2 Corinthians 11:14)?

3. In Ephesians 6:17, we are introduced to the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit (word of God)**. How do these pieces of armor work together to thwart the accusations, lies and condemnations of the devil (please feel free to talk about how the **belt of truth** and the **breastplate of righteousness** thwart these attacks as well)?

4. Here are just some of the lies the devil uses against us:

- You're not loved (Truth: **For God so loved the world** – John 3:16)
- You're a mistake (Truth: **You are remarkably and wonderfully made** – Psalm 139:14, CSB)
- You're worthless (Truth: **You are God's masterpiece** – Eph 2:10, NLT)
- You're hideous (Truth: **You are made in the image of God** – Genesis 1:27)
- You're alone (Truth: **The Holy Spirit will always be with you forever when you place your faith in Jesus** – John 14:16)
- You have no purpose (Truth: **You've been called for His purpose** – Romans 8:28)

Which lie are you most susceptible to? Do you think it's necessary to be constantly reminded of the truth? Why or why not?

4. How will you use the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit this week during times of spiritual warfare?

5. In week 1, Pastor Tom shared this definition of spiritual warfare: *"Spiritual warfare is the ongoing battle between the church and the devil and his forces, with the church standing in the armor of God, defensively resisting the devil, and **offensively proclaiming the gospel in a battle** already won."* Is there someone in your life that you need to proclaim the gospel to with the sword of the Spirit?