

FRAMES

SPIRITUAL WARFARE
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Foundation Verse

Ephesians 2:10: "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."



FRAME Questions:

1. **What is Spiritual Warfare?**
2. **Who participates in Spiritual Warfare?**
3. **How can we fight back against Spiritual Warfare?**

OPENING IMAGE

I used to enjoy playing with Army toys. Whenever I went to the dollar store, I begged my mom to buy me a bag of the little green soldiers. I loved imagining myself as their commander, leading attacks against lizards in my backyard, and testing their survival skills in my freezer. Most of them managed to survive. However, a soldier's job isn't so fun. Their primary role is to protect, defend, and serve the nation or people they represent. This duty is always challenging, as many soldiers make great sacrifices in the line of duty. They often have to sacrifice time away from their family and country; some even pay the ultimate price: their own lives. When you & I give our lives to Jesus, we become a part of the family of God. We are now eternally spiritual brothers and sisters in Christ. What is also true is that we are now part of the army of God. Once you have given your life to Jesus, you are on the enemy's hit list. Satan, the deceiver, is now after your life. This is why the Apostle Paul talks about "putting on the whole armor of God in Ephesians 6:10-18.



Read Ephesians 6:10-18

Like any soldier, when we put on armor, we are making a statement about the kind of world we are going against.

What is Spiritual Warfare?

Neil T. Anderson in his book *The Essential Guide to Spiritual Warfare* defines Spiritual Warfare as a battle for the mind"

Ephesians 6:12.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil spiritual forces in the heavens."

Question #1

According to Paul, what is the purpose of putting on the full armor of God, and how does it enable believers to withstand the schemes of the devil?



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Who participates in Spiritual Warfare?

if you believe in Jesus, you are in a spiritual fight against Satan, the deceiver, and his demons. However, it is crucial to note that although Paul mentions spiritual warfare, he does not call upon the believer to engage in it. We are not supposed to go deliberately looking for demons to battle. This is not what Paul is advocating. John 8:44 gives us a profile of the enemy.

"You are of your father the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, [a] because he is a liar and the father of lies."

Question #2

Satan is described as a liar, a murderer, and a deceiver. This means he tells lies, causes harm, and tries to trick people. How do these traits help us go against the enemy? How can this help us know how to pray or help others who are struggling with spiritual attacks from the enemy?



How (why) should we engage in Spiritual Warfare?

1. The enemy can be defeated in Christ. Read **Colossians 2:15**
2. We have spiritual weapons at our disposal. Read **Ephesians 3:16** and **2 Corinthians 10:4**
3. We fight *from* a place of victory, not *for* victory. Read **Romans 8:1-2**, **1 Cor 6:19-20** and **2 Tim 1:7**



Question #3

How does the idea of "fighting from victory versus fighting for victory", affect how believers deal with spiritual battles? And what parts of the Bible are mentioned to support this idea?



If you're a Christian who feels constantly hurt by life's challenges and struggles, There's a special kind of protection available to you, like armor that shields you from harm. Learning how to use it might take some effort, but it's worth it because it will improve your spiritual life. You're not meant to be weak. Instead, you're meant to be strong. This strength doesn't come from your own abilities but from Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us to rely on God's strength, not our own. So, don't try to protect yourself with self-help books or trendy techniques to feel better. Instead, rely on God's armor, which is strong and reliable.

Take some time this week to write down all the lies you have been believing and find the truth that overpowers that lie in God's word. If you need help, please ask your spiritual mentor for help. Most Bibles also have references in the back where you can find verses that pertain to specific issues. Not to mention the power of the internet to find verses. However you choose to do this, the Word of God is powerful and efficient against the enemy. Use it!

Application

If you are struggling with negative thoughts or lies, share these things with your frames group and allow the leader to pray over you and direct you to further resources.