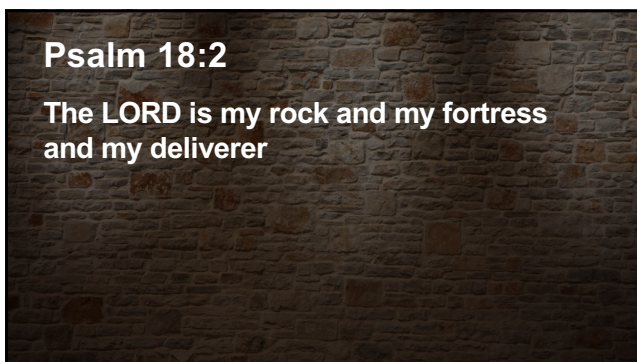




2



3



4

Hebrews 4:12-13

12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

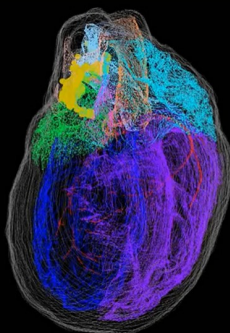
5

Brain cells in the Heart

“The heart has its own ‘brain.’ Now, scientists have drawn a detailed map of this little brain, called the intracardiac nervous system. The heart’s big boss is the brain, but nerve cells in the heart have a say, too. These neurons are thought to play a crucial role in heart health, helping to fine-tune heart rhythms and perhaps protecting people against certain kinds of heart disease.”

6

Nerve cells (yellow) that make up a heart’s “brain” cluster around the top



7

Brain cells in the Heart

Is it possible that past trauma affects not just our brain function and memory but also heart memory function? The sword of the spirit helps perform precision surgery in the heart and the mind.

8

Faith is like WIFI

Faith is like WIFI. It's invisible but it has the power to connect you to what you need.

9

The Promiser is Faithful

Settle this in your heart: Whether I am up or down, the Lord Jesus is the same. Whether I sing or sigh, the promise is true and the Promiser is faithful. Whether I stand on the summit or am hidden in the vale, the covenant stands fast and everlasting love abides.

- Charles Spurgeon

10

Covenant Faith

Because God is the living God, He can hear; because He is a loving God, He will hear; because He is our covenant God, He has bound Himself to hear.

- Charles Spurgeon

11

Seals by covering head with helmet of salvation
Strengthens by girding with His Word
Stabilizes with Sure Feet
Secures with breastplate
Shields from weaponized words
Sword destroys barriers



12

Spoken Words are Powerful

The sword of the spirit is activated by speaking the word of God. These spoken words empowered by faith are both a creative and destructive supernatural force to remove barriers to God's will for our lives.

13

John 11:1-38

1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. 3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

14

John 11:1-38

4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

15

Sword of the Spirit

1. Wait for God's timing, ignoring pressure

16

Delays Are Not Denials

The Lord's delays were not denials. He has a specific timing to bring greater glory to God.

17

John 11:1-38

7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8 The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"

18

John 11:1-38

9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

19

Sword of the Spirit

1. Wait for God's timing, ignoring pressure
2. The safest place is where God calls you

20

Courage

Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die.

- John Eldredge

21

Playing it Safe is Safe?

"When did we start believing that God wants to send us to safe places to do easy things? That faithfulness is holding the fort? That playing it safe is safe? That there is any greater privilege than sacrifice? That radical is anything but normal? Jesus didn't die to keep us safe. He died to make us dangerous."

- Mark Batterson

22

John 11:1-38

11 After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." 12 The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." 13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.

23

John 11:1-38

14 Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16 So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

24

John 11:1-38

17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.

25

John 11:1-38

20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

26

"Even Now" Prayers

Offer "Even Now" prayers of faith after a disappointing turn of events to express the Lord's ability to turn any situation around and use it for His glory.

27

John 11:1-38

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

28

John 11:1-38

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

29

John 11:1-38

27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." 28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.

30

John 11:1-38

30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

31

John 11:1-38

32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.

32

John 11:1-38

34 And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

33

John 11:38-44

38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

34

John 11:38-44

40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.

35

John 11:38-44

42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." 43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

36

John 11:38-44

44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

37

Sword of the Spirit

1. Wait for God's timing, ignoring pressure
2. The safest place is where God calls you
3. Declaratory prayer cuts bonds

38



39
