

# THE ARMOR OF GOD

Ryland Walter | September 3-4, 2022

Week 8: Praying Short, Sincere, Simple Prayers

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> 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.

Battles are guaranteed. Victory is possible.

Victory is \_\_\_\_\_ at the end

<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:10-17 (NIV)

**Truth** is what God says

Truth keeps us from being tripped up by our temptations  
I put it on when I choose to act in love toward others

**Righteousness** is being made right before God

Righteousness protects the heart from Satan's schemes  
I put it on when I hunger for it and offer myself to God

**Peace** is Christ ruling my life

Peace protects me from panic  
I put it on when I pray... thank... think... dwelling on Christ.

**Faith** is trusting God's promises

Faith extinguishes Satan's flaming darts  
I take it up when I focus on God's faithfulness

**Salvation** is being rescued

Salvation protects from the penalty, power & presence of sin  
I take it up when I think about the cross

**The Sword of The Spirit** is the Word of God

It cuts the truth into me, so I can cut the truth into the enemy  
I take it up when I get near it and say it

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Ephesians 6:18-20 (NIV)

## Praying Short Prayers

A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet. On shigionoth.

Lord, I have heard of your fame;  
I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord.  
Repeat them in our day,  
in our time make them known;  
in wrath remember mercy.

God came from Teman,  
the Holy One from Mount Paran.  
His glory covered the heavens  
and his praise filled the earth.  
His splendor was like the sunrise;  
rays flashed from his hand,  
where his power was hidden.

Habakkuk 3:1-4 (NIV)

Short prayers can produce \_\_\_\_\_ results...

- Elijah's 60 word prayer: 1 Kings 18:36-37
- Peter's one sentence healing prayer: Acts 3:1-10
- Paul's 14 word command in Jesus name: Acts 16:16-18
- Hezekiah's 22 words that gave 15 more years: Isaiah 38:1-5
- The prayer of Jabez (29 words): 1 Chronicles 4:10
- The Lord's Prayer (53 words): Matthew 6:9-13
- Blind Bartimaeus cried out 8 words: Mark 10:46-52
- The thief's 9 word prayer next to Jesus: Luke 23:39-43

<sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:42-43 (NLT)

Will I be a \_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_?

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Will I be a worrier or a warrior?



PRAYING SHORT, SINCERE, SIMPLE PRAYERS  
Talk-it-Over Notes | September 3-4, 2022

## REVIEW IT

Short prayers can produce profound results. When they are sincere and Spirit led, short prayers are powerful. The Bible has many examples of God responding to simple prayers of the righteous. In fact, before giving a 53 word prayer, Jesus instructed his disciples to not babble on thinking they'll be heard because of many words, but to pray sincerely and simply. The more time you spend with Jesus, you'll spend more time in prayer, but you can start praying with short prayers that are prayed in the Spirit.

Spend some time in the word... **Read Matthew 6:5-15**

## TALK ABOUT IT

- Have you ever considered that you do not have to pray for a long time for God to hear you?
- Has God ever answered one of your short prayers? Do you believe God can answer your prayer?
- Look over the series recap on the outline of this week's message, or notes from past messages. What stood out to you most in this series, The Armor of God?

## ACT ON IT

Who do you need to pray for today that needs God's help?

## PRAY ABOUT IT

What do you need prayer for today? Take some time to ask how you can pray for and support one another this week.