

Scripture:

Ephesians 6:10-2

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Notes:

Last Week

- Regeneration (giving of new life) results in...
 - New affections
 - New attitudes
 - New actions
 - New agenda

The Gospel in Our Minds

- Mental Conditioning is a process of training your mind to modify your thoughts, attitudes, and beliefs to accept thinking patterns, tendencies and/or mental states in order to optimize positive thinking and ultimately optimize your performance.
 - Isaiah 26:3, You (God) keep him in perfect peace whose **mind** is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.
 - Lamentations 3:21-23, But this I call to **mind**, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
 - Mark 8:33, But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your **mind** on the things of God, but on the things of man."

- Mark 12:30, And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your **mind** and with all your strength.
- Romans 7:22–23, For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my **mind** and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.
- Romans 8:6–7, For to set the **mind** on the flesh is death, but to set the **mind** on the Spirit is life and peace. For the **mind** that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.
- Romans 12:2, Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your **mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- Colossians 1:21, And you, who once were alienated and hostile in **mind**, doing evil deeds,

GOSPEL DEFINED:

- “The Gospel is the announcement that Jesus is the divine King of the world who lived, died, and was raised to be the ruler we so desperately need.”
—The Bible Project
 - 2 Corinthians 10:3–5, For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and **take every thought captive** to obey Christ...”

Lies We Believe

- I need to be perfect, good; I need to have my act together...can't be needy.
- I need to have someone's approval...I have to be impressive.
- I have to have the answers, I don't need anyone to help, I can do it on my own.
- I have to be in control (comfortable)
- I have to be strong...I can handle this.

Daily fight with the strength of the Lord.

- BE STRONG — literally be strengthened by
- He's given us His armor
- Purpose of the armor is to prepare for spiritual attack
- Purpose of the armor is to protect against the spiritual forces
- Power is found in the promises of Scripture

Daily confess the truth of the Gospel.

- STAND FIRM
- Verbally confess Jesus as Lord
- Verbally confess and acknowledge the faith God has given us.
- Verbally confess Gospel truths. What are the truths of the Gospel?

Daily assess the fruit of the Gospel.

- WHOLE ARMOR
- Effective assessments require honest questions and answers.
- Effective assessments require efforts to change.
- Effective assessments don't just evaluate behavior but thinking.
- Effective assessments use the Gospel as the baseline.

Daily pray the power of the Gospel

- KEEP ALERT
- Pray at all times, in all occasions
- Praying in the Spirit is praying in the strength of the Lord
- All types of prayer and requests
- Pray for one another

THIS WEEK...

- Pray for strength
- Assess the fruit
- Confess your faith
- Preach the Gospel