



HeartCry



September 2007

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A defeated prayer life is an entrance point for the enemy to destroy your family.

Job 1:5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Job was a man of prayer. The Word of God tells that he continually offered sacrifices to the Lord for his children's purification. This was done because of his great love for God and his family. His prayers and sacrifices were a wall of protection around his family keeping harm from coming their way.

Soon the school buses will be pulling up at the house to take my children off to school once again. (Hallelujah) My two adult children are in missionary training in Charlotte with our four grandbabies. My heart cries out to God, "Lord, keep them under your care as they are learning to walk with You, and protect them from the Adversary."

As chapter one continues in the book of Job, we know that Satan appears before the Lord and the question is asked, "Have you considered my servant Job?" Satan replies, "Why consider him? You have him protected and he has everything a person could ever want. He is blessed in every way."

Evangelical
Congregational Church



Evangelism &
Discipleship
Commission

Prayer Mobilization
Team

That day God allowed Satan to touch anything Job had, but with one exception. He could not take his life.

Here is an interesting revelation. As Satan attempts to come against Job, what do you think would be his first target? You probably guessed that it was his family, but not in the way that you would suspect. His first target was the animals of sacrifice.

Job 1:13-16 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Satan's first desire was to stop Job from sacrificing regularly before the Lord to protect his family. Our prayers are protection around our families. Prayer is the number one thing that Satan would like to destroy in your spiritual life and in the life of your church. If he can accomplish this, we will be powerless to defend our families.

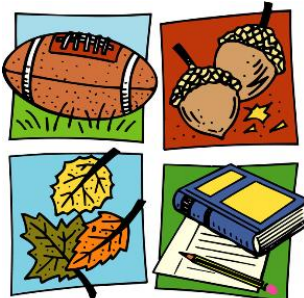
This is why our prayer life is often the most difficult area of the spiritual disciplines.

Prayer is harder than doing. God intended it to be that way.

God's desire is for us to recognize that our self efforts only lead to folly and that we would quickly learn by trial and error that we cannot accomplish anything in the flesh. The strategy for victory is found in prayer. You will accomplish more in prayer than in all the programs and seminars combined. PRAYER COMES BEFORE DOING.

We need to get the strategy from God and then do what God says to do.

Upon destroying the cattle and sheep (the animals of sacrifice), Satan was able to attack Job's family. Let's keep the wall of protection around them and determine to do as Job did. We must daily offer the sacrifices of our prayers to the Lord for our family members.



Grandparents' Day
September 9, 2007

The Warrior's Arsenal: resources & tools

Bring Your Loved Ones to Christ

By: Don Wilkerson
ISBN: 0-8007-5316-X

After you have prayed for your loved ones' salvation, the work of persistent, believing, consistent, insistent, and intercessory prayer remains. This short work of 121 pages encourages the reader to continue steadfast in the praying that wins and secures our loved ones for Christ. Fight the enemy proactively in prayer!



Failure is Not the End

By: Dennis Leonard
ISBN: 1-880809-92-3

“Sometimes you have to say goodbye to your past so that God can do a new thing in your life.” Through solid and careful targeted Bible based discipleship, Leonard helps you make strategic and Biblical course corrections for the failures you have made so you can get your past behind you. You will pray through these 213 pages.

The Bait of satan

By: John Beveré
ISBN: 1-59185-413-X

The Bait of satan (lower case intended) “exposes one of the most deceptive snares satan uses to get believers out of the will of God – offense.” Most people who are ensnared by the bait of satan don’t even realize it. We are responsible to know how offence affects our relationship with God and how it affects prayer for those in our family. This practical and informative work addresses problems of how to fight negative thoughts of suspicion and distrust, how to stop rehearsing past hurts, and how to regain trust after someone offends. A thirty day devotional supplement is included in this 255 page book.



Shepherding a Child's Heart

By: Tedd Tripp
ISBN: 0-9663786-0-1

This revised and updated work is about how to speak to the heart of your child. Written for parents with children of any age, this insightful book provides perspectives and procedures for shepherding your child's heart into the paths of life.

212 pages

Incense Before the Throne

The Invisible Battlefield

We are at war! And the conflict in which we are engaged is unlike any warfare mankind can wage against humanity, for the forces to be reckoned with are more threatening than any natural force known and the stakes are eternal!

The Bible makes it clear that as believers this warfare involves a foe that is not of this world. Equipped with greater weaponry than the military might of any nation or international power, our enemy opposes us in the spirit realm in the battle of the ages, *“for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”* (Eph. 6:12).

Identify the Enemy

It is imperative that you determine who your enemy really is and be spiritually prepared for battle. Preparation for spiritual warfare requires the application of spiritual principles revealed in the Word of God.

Never underestimate the capabilities of your adversary or the deceptiveness he will use in his attempt to defeat you. Satan does not fight alone. Let's quickly examine the five divisions of Satan's army mentioned in Ephesians 6:12.

The five divisions in Satan's army include:

1. **Spirits or demons** – the Word of God says, *“We wrestle not against flesh and blood.”*
2. **Principalities** – from the Greek word *arche*; chief rulers of the highest rank.
3. **Powers** – from the Greek word *exousia* or “authorities.” These authorities operate under the chief rulers, executing their will.
4. **Rulers of the darkness of this world** – world rulers of darkness; natural men who possessed demonic powers. “This world” (cosmos) binds them to the natural and refers to governments or individuals in high authority in this world who are demon led or directed.
5. **Spiritual wickedness in high places** – wicked spirits in the heavens; fallen angels.

Be Strong in the Lord

Strength to subdue and defeat the enemy is not found in the natural; it is found in the Lord. The Bible commands us as



believers to *“be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might”* (Eph. 6:10).

The Greek implies the command to “be strengthened” in Christ's might, as is promised to the believer: *“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power”* (Eph. 1:19).

Recognize who you are in Christ and acknowledge the real source of your strength. Don't attempt to fight the forces of hell alone, for the power to subdue and defeat the enemy does not rest in your strength; it comes from the Lord. Luke 10:19 declares, *“I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”*

Clothe Yourself with the Armor of God

A prepared soldier will not go into battle without the appropriate armor. The potential for victory in a battle hinges upon suitable armor and appropriate weaponry. A spiritual battle requires spiritual weapons. It's impossible to avert the attacks of the devil and prevail against his strategies in your own strength. The Word of God instructs, *“Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil”* (Eph. 6:11).

The Word of God continues on this theme stating, *“Wherefore, take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day”* (Eph. 6:13).

Subsequent Scriptures describe essential armor and weaponry for the believer's use in withstanding and defeating the enemy. It is interesting to note that the first five pieces of armor have a defensive purpose while the remaining two pieces are for an offensive purpose. Defensive armor provides protection for the vital organs of the soldier when facing the enemy in battle. From a spiritual



Put on
the full
armor of
God, so
that...
you may
be able
to stand
your
ground...

Ephesians 6:13

perspective, the whole armor of God, applied and used properly, provides full protection and enables the believer to hold his ground against the enemy until victory comes.

The Armor of God

1. **"Loins girt about with truth" (Eph. 6:14).**
Your loins deal with your mind. Peter said, **"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind" (1 Pet. 1:13).** Fill your mind with the Word.
2. **"The breastplate of righteousness" (Eph. 6:14).**
The breastplate covers the vital organs and speaks of the heart. The breastplate of righteousness fortifies the heart against the attacks of the enemy. Allow the righteousness revealed in God's Word to influence your mind and touch your heart. When the truth of God's Word touches your mind and heart, it brings transformation and renewal (Rom. 12:2).
3. **"Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" (Eph. 6:15)**
The Word of God must affect your walk or your life. This happens as the Word fills your mind, touches your heart, and is manifest or seen in your walk. It all begins with your mind. You begin to read the Word and hear the Word; it begins to influence and fill your heart with truth. This affects your actions in your daily life.
4. **"The shield of faith" (Eph. 6:16).**
Faith brings powerful results, for when faith is joined with the results of the Word in your mind, heart, and life, the Word of God declares, *"ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."* Armed with the Word of God and faith, we can withstand the onslaught of the enemy and render his fiery darts ineffective.
5. **"The helmet of salvation" (Eph 6:17).**
In the natural the helmet protects the head from injury in battle. Some mistakenly believe that the helmet deals with the mind. However, *the helmet of salvation* deals

with doctrine. Once the truth enters your mind, touches your heart, affects your life and walk, and is manifest in your actions, it becomes your nature. The helmet of salvation deals with your nature, your character, your doctrine; what you believe is who you are. The doctrine of the Word makes you balanced, stable. You are not moved by error or taken by false teaching. The helmet of salvation is the doctrine of the Word that brings balance to your life, and keeps you walking steady and balanced with the Spirit and in the Spirit.

6. **"The sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:17)**
All the armor up to this point has served a defensive purpose, intended for use in facing the enemy. Each piece of armor provided protection from an attack. And although the Word of God is connected to each element of God's armor, *the sword of the Spirit* is the Word of God, for it is used as an offensive weapon against the enemy.

The Word of God protects you against the enemy, affecting your mind, your heart, your walk, your actions, as well as your nature, character, and life. As your life becomes strong and established, the *"sword of the Spirit"* becomes an offensive weapon against the enemy. Unmovable, unshakable, and because of the truth within, you are able to stand against the enemy.

In three consecutive instances Jesus Christ Himself used the Word of God as He resisted Satan's temptation, saying, **"It is written..." (Matt. 4:4, 6, 7).** Armed with the sword of the Spirit, you can take back the territory that belongs to you.

7. **"Prayer and supplication" (Eph. 6:18)**
The final weapon is what keeps you, and that's prayer. Prayer that covers and clothes you like a mantle, for the Bible declares, *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit."*

Seven pieces of armor...seven weapons of war. The Word is my **MIND**. The Word is in my **HEART**. The Word is reflected in my **WALK**. The Word is in my **FAITH** and my **ACTIONS**. The Word is in my **CHARACTER**. The Word is in my **MOUTH** which is the sword of the Spirit, which is the offensive weapon – and now **PRAYER** that covers me like a mantle.



Tidbits on Prayer

Attn: Church Prayer Coordinators and Pastors....

This is a Prayer Event that you can't afford to miss!!!
The Church Prayer Leaders Network is devoted to growing prayer in the local church.



The Church Prayer Leaders Network is for anyone who desires to see his or her church become a house of prayer for all nations. Though designed specifically for the person in a local church (pastor or layperson) who has been given the task of leading prayer, the site and network is much broader than that. If you are in any type of ministry in your church, and have a heart of encouraging others to grow in prayer, this is for you. Pastors, small group leaders, intercessors, elders, youth and children's workers, worship leaders – anyone who leads and wants prayer to be central to what they do – will benefit from joining the CPLN.

Our desire is to encourage, challenge, and equip you to be a champion of prayer in your church.

Enjoy,
Jonathan Graf
President, CPLN

Church Prayer Leaders Event
(Plan to attend now)
November 9-10 Toledo, Ohio
www.prayerleader.com

Location: First Alliance Church, 2201 Monroe St., Toledo, OH
Keynote Speaker: Terry Teykl
Cost: \$45, CPLN Member: \$36
Early bird (Until October 12) \$36, CPLN Member: \$28
Pastors and Spouses: \$22.50
Groups of 5 or more from same church (must register together) 20% discount (\$28 before October 12, \$36 after)

Start a Home Builders Group in Your Church



Home Builders Couples and Parenting Series

A godly home is built by knowing God's blueprints for marriage and putting them into action. Find out more about how the Home Builders Couples and Parenting Series® can help you build a godly family and develop lifelong friendships.

You do not need to be an expert Bible teacher to host a Home Builders group. The host couple's main function is to provide an environment of openness, warmth, and acceptance. Develop a plan that will help you get started. Subscribe to the Home Builders e-newsletter and receive encouraging and helpful tips from experienced Home Builders hosts.

Can an average couple be used by God to have a significant effect on families? Yes! Find out how you can make a real difference in the lives of today's families.

www.myfamilylife.com/homebuilders

The origins of the ministry can be traced back to 1951, when Bill Bright founded Campus Crusade for Christ to help fulfill Christ's Great Commission – taking the gospel to every nation. Starting on one college campus with one couple, Campus Crusade has grown into a multi-faceted organization with tens of thousands of people serving in more than 196 countries.

In 1976, Campus Crusade expanded its outreach to young families with the creation of Family Ministry and Home Builders.

31 Biblical Virtues to Pray for Your Kids

by Bob Hostetler



September 2007

Day 1

Salvation.

Isaiah 45:8; 2 Timothy 2:10

Day 2

Growth in grace

2 Peter 3:18

Day 3

Love

Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:2

Day 4

Honesty and integrity

Psalm 25:21

Day 5

Self-control

1 Thessalonians 5:6

Day 6

Love for God's Word

Psalm 19:10

Day 7

Justice

Psalm 11:7; Micah 6:8

Day 8

Mercy

Luke 6:36

Day 9

**Respect (for self, others,
authority)**

1 Peter 2:17

Day 10

Biblical self-esteem

Ephesians 2:10

Day 11

Faithfulness

Proverbs 3:3

Day 12

Courage

Deuteronomy 31:6

Day 13

Purity

Psalm 51:10

Day 14

Kindness

1 Thessalonians 5:15

Day 15

Generosity

1 Timothy 6:18-19

Day 16

Peace-loving

Romans 14:19

Day 17

Joy

1 Thessalonians 1:6

Day 18

Perseverance

Hebrews 12:1

Day 19

Humility

Titus 3:2

Day 20

Compassion

Colossians 3:12

Day 21

Responsibility

Galatians 6:5

Day 22

Contentment

Philippians 4:12-13

Day 23

Faith

Luke 17:5-6; Hebrews 11:1-40

Day 24

A servant's heart

Ephesians 6:7

Day 25

Hope

Romans 15:13

Day 26

**Willingness and ability to
work**

Colossians 3:23

Day 27

Passion for God

Psalm 63:8

Day 28

Self-discipline

Proverbs 1:3

Day 29

Prayerfulness

Ephesians 6:18

Day 30

Gratitude

Ephesians 5:20; Colossians 2:7

Day 31

A heart for missions

Psalm 96:3