

Spiritual Warfare

**Armor:
Shield of Faith**
Message 5

Perry Duggar
October 16, 2022

► Outline

...take up the shield of faith...

Ephesians 6:16a (NIV)

A. Introduction

(Ephesians 6:13-16; Hebrews 10:35-36; 11:1)

Shield of faith = being certain of God's _____.

B. Satan's Strategy:

(Genesis 3:1-13)

1. Promotes _____ about God's _____.

(Genesis 3:1-3; Jeremiah 29:11; John 10:10;
1 John 5:14-15)

God's Promises:

2. Provokes _____ of God's _____.

(Genesis 3:4-6; Psalm 37:4-5; Romans 8:31-32;
2 Peter 1:3-4)

God's Promises:

3. Produces _____ from God with _____.

(Genesis 3:7-13; Act 3:19-20; Colossians 1:21-22;
1 Peter 3:18)

God's Promises:

Answers: A. promises B. 1. doubt, guidelines 2. mistrust, motivations 3. separation, sin
Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

Describe a time your faith was tested.

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Ephesians 6:13–16; Hebrews 10:35-36; 11:1.

The apostle Paul listed several pieces of armor worn by Roman soldiers to teach us about the spiritual armor given to us by God. This week our focus is on the **shield of faith** which would have been the Roman soldier's greatest defensive tool against attackers.

1. What are telltale signs Satan is attacking your faith?
2. Describe a time your faith was strengthened by one of God's promises.

Read Genesis 3:1-3.

Satan persuaded Adam and Eve to doubt God's direction (guidelines).

3. Describe a time you questioned God's plan for your life.
4. What specific promises do you see in Jeremiah 29:11, John 10:10 and 1 John 5:14-15? How do these passages give you greater courage to follow God's direction?

Read Genesis 3:4-6.

Satan provoked Adam and Eve to mistrust God's goodness (motivations).

5. Describe a time it was difficult for you to trust in the goodness of God.
6. What specific promises do you see in Psalm 37:4-5, Romans 8:31-32 and 2 Peter 1:3-4? What do these promises reveal about the character and motivations of God?

Read Genesis 3:7-13.

Satan's lies resulted in separation from God with sin.

7. Describe a time your sin separated you from God. How has Satan used the sin of others to draw you away from God?
8. What specific promises do you see in Acts 3:19-20, Colossians 1:21-22 and 1 Peter 3:18? How can these help you defend against the attacks of Satan?
9. The shield of faith is not only for personal protection. The Roman soldiers joined their shields together as they marched forward in battle. What would it look like to *hold up the shield of faith* with others?

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. We hope these practices become a regular part of your life so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

Write down several of God's promises. Read them every day and ask God to deepen your trust in Him.

Memory Verse

For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.
1 John 5:4 (NLT)

Daily Reading

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Day 1: Hebrews 10:35-36 | Day 4: Acts 3:19-20 |
| Day 2: John 10:1-10 | Day 5: Colossians 1:21-22 |
| Day 3: 2 Peter 1:3-4 | |

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, October 23, a guest speaker who is a candidate for Senior Pastor of our church is coming to preach. Read **Matthew 26:36-46** to prepare for his message, titled *Power through Surrender*..



580 Brookwood Point Place • Simpsonville SC 29681
864.688.8200 • brookwoodchurch.org