

Vital Sign 5: Equipped – How To Tailor Fit Your Armor

Greg Wendschlag October 23, 2016

*“Do not be conformed any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:2*

The preparation and discipline needed to follow Jesus starts in and is maintained in the mind. We have to learn to think like Jesus thinks.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our battle 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. 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. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 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 saints.” Ephesians 6:10-18

4 Key thoughts to ensure that your armor fits

1. The Bible calls our spiritual life **war**.
2. There exists an **already-defeated** enemy.
3. My enemy is neither **people** nor **circumstances**.
4. Stand! I do not **pursue** victory; I **possess** the victory!

The Armor of God is a metaphor for how you **think**!

1. Belt of **truth**: does God’s **truth guide** my life?
2. Breastplate of **righteousness**: do I let **emotions** or **truth** determine my actions?
3. Shoes of **readiness**: am I constantly **thinking of opportunity** to please Jesus?

4. Helmet of **salvation**: are my thoughts **hopeful** or **discouraged** and **doubtful**?
5. Shield of **faith**: do I **trust** God in every circumstance?
6. Sword - the **Word of God**: do I know **God's Word** well enough to call on it to dictate **every decision**?

"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil come, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand." Eph. 6:13