

"PRAYING THE WORD IS WIELDING THE SWORD"

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

OCTOBER 11, 2009

Questions for Study & Reflection

1. How is prayer connected to the whole of the armor of God? How is it related more specifically to the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit?

2. Read John 15:7-8. What are the two conditions that Jesus gave in these verses and how would you explain them in more depth? What is the promise of these verses and how do you explain the extent of the promise Jesus' makes here? What are the consequences of answered prayer Jesus gives in verse 8?

3. Read Romans 12:1-2. How do you think the latter part of verse two relates to prayer?

4. Pastor Charlie said that there are three distinct levels of prayer as it relates to the Word of God.
 - a. Level One: Praying the exact words of God. What practices have you found most helpful for training yourself in this?

 - b. Level Two: Praying according to the will of God but not in his exact words. What Biblical warrant do we have from praying with our own words? How can we have confidence that God will hear and answer these kinds of prayers? How are these prayers still a wielding of the sword even if they are not comprised of the exact words of God?

 - c. Level Three: Praying according to the will of God but without words. Have there been times in your life when you just couldn't find words to express your heart to God in Christ? Read Romans 8:26-38 and discuss the Spirit's role and yours in times such as these.