

## Gear Up! Part 3 - Week 4

People right here and around the world desperately need Christians to exercise their Christ-given victory over Satan. In Christ, we have what people need to be set free from Satan's destructive control. *1 John 3:8b; Luke 4:40-41; Romans 12:21; Isaiah 61:1*

The key to exercising Christ's victory over Satan is actively standing on Christ's truth about you and aggressively resisting Satan's lies to you. That's how we protect ourselves and set captives free. *John 8:31-32,36; John 8:44; John 10:27-28; Ephesians 6:14-17*

**1) Belt of Truth:** Telling ourselves the truth about who Jesus is, what He has done for us and what He will do for us. *Psalm 23:1*

**2) Body Armor:** Standing on the righteousness Jesus gives us through purchasing the complete forgiveness of all our sins. *Romans 5:9*

**3) Peace Shoes:** Retaining a firm grip on being saved by grace through faith and refusing to become either self-righteous or sinful. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

**4) Shield of Faith:** Declaring your absolute confidence in God, His character, His promises and His control of all things for your good. *Psalm 84:11*

**5) Helmet of Salvation: Preventing yourself from sinning by believing the truth about your personal death to sin and your powerful victory over sin in Christ.**

• **Before Christ- Sinners by nature who sinned**

*Ephesians 2:1-3*

• **Now in Christ- Saints (holy ones) beloved children of light** *2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 1:7; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 5:8*

**As believers we are not sinners trying to become saints, but saints who are becoming like Christ.** *Romans 6:1-11; Romans 6:12-14; Galatians 2:20*

**We can still sin but we don't have to. The devil can't make us do it, and victory is possible in every area of our lives through Christ.** *Romans 8:9-13; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13*

The key to living to sinning less and standing firm is saturating your mind with the Word of God. A transformed mind makes for a great lie detector and life protector!

*Psalm 119:11,15-16; Romans 12:1-2*

**6) Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God - Protecting yourself and others by using sharp, specific Scriptures to fight against specific lies or enticements to sin by Satan.** *Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:12; 1 John 4:4*

**Wow, God has given us incredible armor for life's battles. We can be ready for anything and be used to set captives free!** *1 John 5:4-5*

**Reading Guide:** Take time this week to read through the Scriptures in the message and reflect on them deeply.

**Life Application Questions:**

1) How do you honestly see yourself... sinner or saint? How would seeing yourself with a biblical perspective change your behavior? Do you consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God? Do you understand how to slip on the helmet of salvation?

2) How good are you with the Sword of the Spirit? Share a time of close combat you went through? How do you keep your sword sharp for daily battles with the enemy? How can we pray for one another?