

## Call to Duty – Spiritual Warfare – 6

### Ephesians 6:11-17

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; NKJV

- The belt holds everything together
- The breastplate protects your heart
- The shoes protect you feet
- The helmet protects your head
- The shield protects your whole being
- The sword is for attacking
- The sword of the Spirit is the word of God
- It is one of two offensive weapons
  - Praying in the Spirit can also be an offensive weapon

### Ephesians 6:18

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints NKJV

- What does praying in the Spirit mean?
- The Word of God
- Praying in other tongues

Praying in the Spirit consistently will build you up

It will bring courage, faith, spiritual stamina, encouragement

It will give revelation of things to pray

### 1 Corinthians 14:14

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. NKJV

### 1 Corinthians 14:4

4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. NKJV

You and I should be praying in the Spirit throughout the day

Pray quietly – under your breath

When we pray in tongues we are praying perfectly

It will keep us flowing with God

### 1 Corinthians 14:2

2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. NKJV

Christian psychiatrist *Carl R Peterson, MD*, says praying in tongues will even help boost your immune system.

Praying in tongues also helps us to wait while waiting for the manifestation of what we are praying for  
It will help to build up our faith

### Jude 20-21

20 But you, beloved, **building yourselves up** on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. NKJV

- Remember it is “the faith”
- Its something built on the revelation of the love of God

The Bible tells us here in **Ephesians 6:18** that we should be praying always with all prayer in the Spirit  
Praying in the Spirit also helps to cleanse our minds

Lets look at what Jesus taught on faith, prayer and cleansing the temple

### Mark 11:12-14, 20

12 Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. 13 And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard it. NKJV

### Mark 11:20

20 Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. NKJV

Between verses 14 and 20 Jesus goes to the temple and drives out those who bought and sold in the temple. He overturned the tables of the moneychangers and those who sold doves. He wouldn't allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple.

### Mark 11:17

17 Then He taught, saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it a 'den of thieves.'" NKJV

What is Jesus showing us here?

He curses the fig tree and then cleanses the temple to restore it to a house of prayer

When we pray in the Spirit we are restoring our temple as a house of prayer

While we are waiting (*faith and patience*) for our manifestation through prayer we should be cleansing, restoring and building up ourselves through prayer  
A very powerful form of prayer is praying in tongues

We are in essence making our bodies a house of prayer

Praying in the Spirit helps to drive out the “thieves”  
The junk in your trunk is stealing health, vigor and life from your body

We have got to see our bodies as the temple of the Lord  
Our bodies should be houses of prayer  
Don't let the Devil steal from you

### John 10:10

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. NKJV

Your body can become a house of prayer or a den of thieves

### Revelation 5:8

8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. NKJV

- Our prayers are incense
- Incense in the OT would drive away snakes, scorpions, and reptiles
- When we pray in the spirit we can pray perfect prayers
- We can pray without ceasing

### 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. NKJV

If you really believe that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit you won't commit adultery  
You won't allow thieves to break in

Remember your body is not your own – it's the Holy Spirit's- we should pray in the Holy Spirit's language

Many times we don't know what to pray

### Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes **intercession for us** with groanings which cannot be uttered. NKJV

- The Spirit knows what to pray and intercedes for us

Some of us used to pray in the Spirit but somewhere we stopped

Praying in the Spirit is letting the *flow of life and peace* into our life and situation

Jesus said out of our belly would flow rivers of living water

### John 7:37-39

37 Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. NKJV

Maybe you have an area where you don't sense God anymore

He can turn a stream into a mighty, roaring, life producing river that not only blesses you but others

- The Spirit is like a Holy Power Washer!

## King Hezekiah Cleanses the Temple

King Ahaz worshiping false gods

2 Chronicles 28:22-25

22 Now in the time of his distress King Ahaz became increasingly unfaithful to the LORD. This is that King Ahaz. 23 For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him, saying, "Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, I will sacrifice to them that they may help me." But they were the ruin of him and of all Israel. 24 So Ahaz gathered the articles of the house of God, cut in pieces the articles of the house of God, shut up the doors of the house of the LORD, and made for himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. 25 And in every single city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers. NKJV

- He worshipped false gods
- Shut up the doors to the temple
- Idolatry will hinder our access to God
- Note: Ahaz tied the "doors" shut
- When we are caught in idolatry we shut the doors of our hearts
- Do I worship the idol of position, food, sex, entertainment, success, money, achievement, romance, family, self?

## 2 Chronicles 29:16-17

16 Then the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD to cleanse it, and brought out all the debris that they found in the temple of the LORD to the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took it out and carried it to the Brook Kidron.

17 Now they began to sanctify on the first day of the first month, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the vestibule of the LORD. So they sanctified the house of the LORD in eight days, and on the sixteenth day of the first month they finished. NKJV

- Kidron – Darkness or evil
- 1 Kings 13:15 (Asa); 2 Kings 23:4 (Josiah)
- To get in and cleanse the temple they needed to go through the “door”
- The “door” of our temple is our mouth

## Psalm 141:3

3 Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;  
Keep watch over the door of my lips. NKJV

- When we open our mouth and pray in the Spirit our body begins to be repaired from the inside out
- You cleanse with water
- Our body is cleansed with living water
- The more we pray in tongues the more debris is pushed out

## Acts 2:4 NKJV

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.