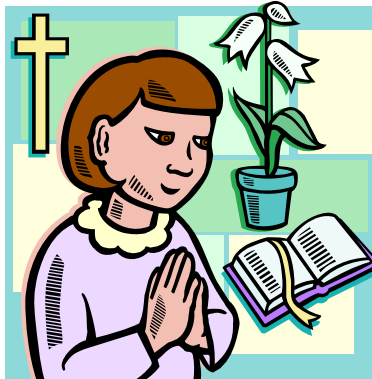


Be Strong in the Lord
Put on the Whole
Armor of God
Part 11



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

5-18-08



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

We have come to our final lesson (for now) in answering one of our student's questions. What was that question we began answering months ago?



“How can we resist temptations such as drugs & alcohol?”

This is an **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** question to answer, not only for children & teenagers, but also for us adults! Our society today is **FILLED** with all kinds of **TEMPTATIONS** which IF we give in to them will not only cause us to **MAKE A MESS** out of our lives & hurt others, but **ALSO** take us **AWAY** from following God's plan for our lives! & **REMEMBER!**

God's plan for our lives is

1ST that we would **BELIEVE IN JESUS AS OUR SAVIOR** so that He can save us from the Lake of Fire & make us His children forever.

Read Acts 16:31 KJB & John 1:12-13 KJB.

2ND that we would become more & more like Jesus in what we **THINK, SAY & DO** so that we can glorify God while we are on earth as well as enjoy blessings on earth & earn rewards for all eternity! (In future lessons we'll learn more about earning rewards!) Every time we say **NO** to temptation & **YES** to what God tells us to do, we act like Jesus & we **GLORIFY GOD!**

Read Romans 8:28-29 & Ephesians 5:15-16

These temptations not only include things like illegal use of drugs & alcohol & gambling which everyone - even UNBELIEVERS - know are EVIL, but even some things that may NOT be bad or evil. Now what are THOSE kind of thing that may not really be bad or evil, but are TEMPTATIONS to keep us AWAY from God's plan for our lives? Well, here is just one of example.

It certainly is NOT a BAD or EVIL
thing to go
SHOPPING!



In fact, we NEED to shop - for clothes & food etc. BUT if we CHOOSE to go SHOPPING every time we should be in church, then we are giving in to the temptation to STAY AWAY from learning God's beautiful Word & being with other members of God's family - other believers in Jesus Christ. Now of course we can NOT always be in church! Sometimes we are sick or special things come up that we NEED to do! But we should ALWAYS make time each day for PRAYING & READING GOD'S WORD. And even if you physically CANNOT come to church, you can listen to your pastor teaching God's Word in other ways. On TV or Radio or CD or TAPE - even on the INTERNET! God's children have NO EXCUSE for not spending time with God!

But as we said, this world is FILLED with all kinds of things - things that EVERYONE knows are

evil such as the wrong use of drugs & alcohol & things that are not really evil in themselves - all these things are used by SATAN to TEMPT believers to STAY AWAY from spending time with God! So what are BELIEVERS TO DO to be able to RESIST TEMPTATION?

This is the question for which we have spent MONTHS now LEARNING the answer! And here is GOD'S ANSWER: Ephesians 6:10-13 KJB

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might,

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”



God's answer is that we DRESS OUR SOULS UP in the SPECIAL SPIRITUAL ARMOR that He has provided ALL HIS CHILDREN! This spiritual armor gives God's children POWER to RESIST TEMPTATIONS of all kinds! When we DRESS our

SOULS in God's armor, we are READY for the BATTLE of RESISTING TEMPTATIONS! In our past lessons we learned many facts about all the pieces of this special armor. We learned how the Holy Spirit helps us KNOW what this armor is & how to PUT IT ON & He gives us the POWER to use it to say NO, NO, NO to all the Devil's temptations! Get those past lessons if you need to catch up!

Today we will about another part of this armor. It is not really something to PUT ON our souls. It is something we must DO in a SPECIAL WAY once our soul is all dressed up in our PROTECTIVE ARMOR! It is a DUTY that all God's children are to carry out in this BATTLE against Satan! Lets' see what this special DUTY is!

Ephesians 6:17-18 KJB

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:



Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints:"



What is our DUTY as God's children - as SOLDIERS in God's army? We are to

PRAY!

Prayer is part of our spiritual battle against Satan & all his followers. Last week we learned some very important **FACTS** about **PRAYER**. Get that lesson if you need to review. We learned that God **ALREADY KNOWS** what our prayers will be; but even so, He wants us to **PRAY!**

We learned that we should pray because:

1. God tells us to!
2. God **LOVES** to hear & answer our prayers!
3. Prayer is our way to **TALK** to our Father who loves us!
4. Prayer gives God the opportunity to **PROVE** to us that He is **REAL** & **CAN** & **WILL** take care of us!
5. Prayer helps our **FAITH** grow stronger as we see how God answers us in **HIS TIME** & **HIS WAY** which is the **BEST** time & **BEST** way!

Remember! Prayer is our way of **TALKING TO GOD** our Father. It is our way of telling Him things. It is our way of asking Him things. And now we also have just learned that God wants us to **PRAY** because **PRAYER** is a very necessary part of our spiritual warfare against Satan. When we **PRAY** to God our Father for things **HE** wants us to pray for, we show Satan that we are on **GOD'S SIDE** in this battle! We show Satan that we **NEED GOD!** We need His **WISDOM**, **HIS POWER**, **HIS GRACE!**

The Bible tells us **CLEARLY** that there is



A BATTLE

going on between God & Satan for the souls of men. We learned some things about this battle in past lessons & we will learn more things about it in future lessons.

Now because **PRAYER** is such an important **PART** of this **BATTLE**, God gives us **LOTS** of **INSTRUC-**

TIONS of exactly HOW we should PRAY!

Today we will see just a few of those INSTRUCTIONS, but if you keep on READING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE every day, and keep on ASKING God to show you more of HIS INSTRUCTIONS about prayer, HE WILL SHOW YOU! That's His PROMISE!

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

But let him ask in faith; not wavering..."



James 1:5-6a KJB

That scripture is not only a PROMISE from God that He WILL help you learn His Word & His Will, but it is also an INSTRUCTION about how we are to pray & what we are to pray for in this battle to RESIST SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS!

That scripture tells us that one thing we should pray for is WISDOM! What kind of WISDOM? Wisdom to KNOW GOD'S WILL for us & others! Wisdom to UNDERSTAND HIS WORD! Wisdom to be able to SPOT the devil's temptations! Wisdom to know which SCRIPTURES to use to say NO when Satan tempts us!

That scripture also tells us that when we ask God for something, we should ask Him IN FAITH! When we know that what we are asking lines up with what God wants, we are to BELIEVE that HE WILL

ANSWER US! WHY should we BELIEVE that He will answer us? Because HE SAID HE WOULD! And GOD CANNOT LIE! Now RE-READ Ephesians 6:17-18 KJB. It gives us more INSTRUCTIONS about PRAYER that helps God's children RESIST SATAN!

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints:"

When we pray, we are to take our helmet of salvation & all the other pieces of our spiritual armor. We are to REMEMBER that God has saved us. We belong to Him forever! We can go to Him with our prayers ANYTIME for ANYTHING!



We are to take the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT! When we KNOW God's Word, we will KNOW what God wants us to pray for! As we read His Word, He'll show us more & more! Also as we learn His Word, we will become better at "hearing" His Spirit's voice within our hearts telling us what we should pray for. And finally, we are to PRAY FOR OTHER BELIEVERS that they too will grow STRONG IN THE LORD & the POWER OF HIS MIGHT & know how to use God's special armor to RESIST SATAN too!

How can we RESIST TEMPTATIONS?
Put on the ARMOR OF GOD, believe God, obey God, and PRAY the way God wants you to pray!

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

Directions

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

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