

Spiritual Covering



MetaCamp

Are you praying for spiritual covering?

When we pray, do we ask for protection from the forces of darkness? Typically, that may not be part of the daily prayers of most people. Should it be? What did Jesus teach us about praying for spiritual covering and protection? What is our example from His prayer life?

Jesus' first public teaching on prayer included the model prayer found in Matthew 6. He gave it as an example of what we should include in our daily prayers, and in verse 13, we're taught to pray "...deliver us from the evil one." (*Matt. 6:13*) Some translations say, "deliver us from evil," but the word Matthew used is not a neuter word; it's masculine—and "evil one" is more accurate, referring to Satan. Jesus is telling us we should pray for deliverance, for protection, for spiritual covering for ourselves and others.

Jesus reinforced the need for prayer for God's protection in His high priestly prayer in John 17. It was a prayer for His disciples who were with Him then, and for us as future believers (*John 17:20*).

The first thing Jesus asked for us was in verse eleven, "Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name." (*John 17:11*) And again, in verse 14. He prayed, "...protect them from the evil one." (*John 17:15*) If it was important to Jesus that He pray for our protection, shouldn't it be equally important to us?

Pray with me now—*Father, we ask as Jesus did, that you protect each of us and those we love from Satan and his evil spirits, for we ask in Jesus' name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Is Satan real?

Before we can take Jesus' admonition to pray for deliverance from the evil one seriously, we must understand that Satan is a real enemy, and spiritual warfare is going on all around us—whether we're aware of it or not.

Jesus knew Satan is a powerful adversary. He was there when Satan fell like lightning from heaven (*Luke 10:18*). And Jesus made it clear that Satan has authority on earth—as both the ruler and prince of this world (*John 12:31, 14:30, 15:30-31, 16:11*).

Jesus experienced Satan personally during His forty days in the wilderness (*Matt. 4:1-11*). Matthew tells us the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil, and he describes these real temptations and Satan's defeat. Jesus knew Satan would come after us as well, so He taught us to pray that our Father would deliver us from the evil one (*Matt. 6:13*), and He personally prayed for our protection (*John 17:11, 14*).

Many times Jesus warned about Satan's interference in our lives. In one parable He taught, "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away... The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil." (*Matt. 13:24-30, 38-39*)

While everyone was sleeping, the enemy came and was never noticed. Just as he'll come today.

Pray with me now—*Father, sometimes it's hard to believe Satan is real because we can't see evil spirits. Open our spiritual eyes, in Jesus' name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Does Satan really roam the earth?

It's easy to think of spiritual warfare as something that occurs up in the sky or in outer space. But the truth is, it's happening right now, all around us.

When Satan rebelled against God, he was cast down from heaven to the earth. In The Revelation we read, "And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. ...woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you!" (Rev. 12:7-9,12)

Isaiah writes, "How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth...." (Isa.14:12) And in Job we're told, "One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. The Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it.'" (Job 1:6-7)

Peter tells us, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Pet.5:8)

Satan is here, and he's real. Do our prayers reflect that?

Pray with me now—*Father, help us to recognize the reality of Satan's threat without fear, for we ask in Jesus' name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

How powerful an enemy is Satan?

Satan is a powerful enemy, but we must never think of spiritual warfare as a battle between equal opponents. God and Satan are not equal.

Satan is a created being, an angel. He is, or at least he was, perhaps the most beautiful angel God ever created, maybe the most powerful—and pride was his downfall.

Satan was cast down to the earth when he said in his heart, “I will ascend to heaven, I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountains. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” (*Isa. 14:12-14*)

Satan was wrong. He could not make himself like the Most High God then, and he cannot today. He was thrown out of heaven, sent to the earth, and when he successfully deceived Adam and Eve, he won the right to rule the world—temporarily. Jesus defeated Satan at the cross, and Jesus will return for the final victory.

Meanwhile, it’s been our responsibility, as disciples of Christ, to use Jesus’ name and His authority to stand our ground and advance His kingdom on earth through prayer. We’re a significant part of the battle, like the generals commanding the troops. Our assignment is to pray (*Eph. 6:18*).

Pray with me now—*Lord Jesus, even though we know the war is won, sometimes the battles seem lost. Help us to keep our eyes on You, for we ask it in Your powerful name. Amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Why should we be concerned about Satan?

Satan is not only a powerful enemy; he is the ruler of this world.

In Genesis 1, we learn that God gave Adam the right to rule over the earth: “Then God said...‘Let [man] rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. ...[Let mankind] ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.’” (*Gen. 1:26,28*)

But Adam gave up his dominion over the earth (*Psalms 8:6*) when he sinned (*Gen. 3*), and from that moment the world has been under Satan’s rule. Many times Jesus Himself acknowledged Satan as the “ruler” (*John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11*) and “prince of this world” (*John 12:31, 14:30, 15:30-31, 16:11*).

It’s important to understand this or we may not take Satan seriously. It’s true that Jesus has won the victory over Satan on the cross, but until He returns, we are left here where “the whole world is under the control of the evil one.” (*1 John 5:19*) It’s no wonder Jesus taught us to pray for protection from Satan (*Matt. 6:13*), or that He Himself prayed for our protection. (*John 17:11,15*).

Jesus took Satan and his position as ruler and prince of this world seriously—and so must we, or we and our loved ones are greatly at risk.

Pray with me now—*Father, help us not to fear, but to respect the threat Satan poses to our lives, and to defeat him through prayer. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Do you have authority over Satan?

Either you have authority over Satan, or he has authority over you.

Since Adam, we've all been born into Satan's kingdom. Until we are rescued from the kingdom of darkness and brought into the kingdom of God's Son—by redemption and the forgiveness of our sins (*Col. 1:13-14*)—we are under Satan's rule. The whole world is under the rule of the evil one (*1 John 5:19*)—except for the children of God, and Satan cannot harm us, according to *1 John 5:18*.

The children of God are those who have received Jesus, who believe in His name (*John 1:12*). We have been spiritually “raised up with Christ” and seated with God “in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus” (*Eph. 2:6*) where all things, including Satan, are under His feet (*Eph. 1:22*). Since we are seated spiritually *with* Christ and *in* Christ, we share in His authority over Satan.

This doesn't happen by being born into a Christian family, or by joining a Christian church. Paul tells us in First Corinthians, “he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.” (*1 Cor. 6:17*) We're “in Christ” when we unite ourselves with Jesus—no longer belonging to Satan, but to God.

If you've never deliberately chosen to unite yourself with Christ, you may want to pray with me now—*Holy Father, I want you to know that I believe Jesus is Your Son Who died for my sins, and I receive Him, I unite myself with Him as my Savior and Lord. Forgive my sins, and help me to turn away from them in Your strength, in Jesus' name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Are you running from Satan, or is he running from you?

I hope you have Satan on the run, because that's what Jesus intended, at least for His disciples.

Jesus experienced firsthand what a real and formidable enemy Satan is, but He made it clear that His disciples would not have to fear Satan because He has given us authority over the kingdom of darkness.

In Luke 9 we read, "When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons...." (*Luke 9:1*) Then again, in Luke 10: "The seventy-two [disciples] returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name.' He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.'" (*Luke 10:17*)

That same authority is available to us today as Jesus' disciples, but it won't protect us unless we use it. Perhaps that's why James admonishes, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (*James 4:7*) First, we must submit; then we resist, and the devil will flee from us. Defeating Satan is a choice.

If we choose not to submit ourselves to God, not to resist Satan with our prayers, our authority isn't worth anything—and the devil has no reason to run.

Pray with me now—Lord, You never ask us to do anything without enabling us. Help us put Your authority to work for Your kingdom, for we ask in Your name, amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Why is it important to understand our spiritual authority?

You and I, on our own, are no match for Satan or his evil spirits. But we're far from helpless, because we've been given the authority to use the powers of heaven against them.

Just as the president of the United States has no power to personally fight and win a war, he can, through the authority of his position, send troops who have the power into action. We, as Christ's disciples, through the authority of Jesus' name, can send forth heavenly troops.

Our authority is based upon our position in Christ (*Eph. 2:6*), who has been given "all authority in heaven and earth..." (*Matt. 28:18*), including the authority to command angels (*Heb. 1:3-4*). God created angels with tremendous supernatural power, but they have no authority. Angels are messengers, who do only what God bids them to do.

We, on the other hand, have no great power, but we have been given spiritual authority. In Luke 10 Jesus told His disciples, "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you." (*Luke 10:17*) When we live as Jesus' disciples, we share the right to use that authority—in prayer. When Satan comes against us, we pray in the authority of Jesus' name, confident that heaven will indeed hear, and as He promised, Jesus will crush Satan under our feet (*Rom. 16:20*).

Pray with me now—Lord Jesus, help us release heaven's power through our prayers, offered in the authority of Your name, amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Is Jesus' authority all we need to defeat Satan with our prayers?

The answer is yes, and no. When Jesus gave His disciples authority over Satan in Luke 10, it should have been enough. “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven,” He said. “I have given you the authority to trample on snakes and scorpions, and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.” (*Luke 10:17-19*) That sounds sufficient, doesn’t it?

But do you remember the account of the demon-possessed boy the disciples could not cure? The boy’s father brought him to Jesus, saying, “I brought [my son] to your disciples, but they could not heal him.” (*Matt. 17:16*) Jesus rebuked the demon and it came out of the boy. When the disciples asked Jesus why it didn’t work for them, He said, “Because of your unbelief, because of your little faith.” (*Matt. 17:20*) Without faith, they were powerless against Satan—no matter how much authority they had been given.

That same authority has been given to us, and in Ephesians 6, Paul gives us clear instructions as to how we are to use it: we’re to pray. (*Eph. 6:18*) But we, too, must have faith. We must believe that our prayers will release the power of heaven through our authority in Christ—or our prayers will be ineffective.

Do we pray in faith believing that Jesus’ victory is our victory over Satan? And if not, are we—or those we love—in peril?

Pray with me now—Lord Jesus, give us faith. Help us to understand and use Your authority in prayer, for we ask in Your powerful name. Amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

How do we exercise our authority over Satan?

The apostle Paul tells us how to take on Satan in Ephesians 6, when he gives us our assignment for spiritual warfare: we're to stand our ground in prayer.

Paul writes, "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 struggle 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." (*Eph. 6:10-11*)

It's important to note that Paul begins with the admonition to be "strong in the Lord." It's more than just relying on the Lord's strength and not our own. It's being strong and certain in our relationship with the Lord.

If there is anything in our lives that has caused our fellowship with Christ to be broken, anything grieving or quenching His Spirit, how strong can we be in Him? Before we can take Satan on, we had best be sure we are right with the Lord. When we're out of fellowship with Him, our prayers may not be heard or answered (*Psalms 66:18; Isaiah 59:2*); His mighty power may not be released.

Christ has given us the right to use His authority over Satan—but not when we've gone AWOL.

Pray with me now—*Lord Jesus, let us never be absent without leave from our relationship with You, for we ask in Your name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Are we prepared to stand our ground against Satan?

In Ephesians 6 we read, “Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground....” (*Eph. 6:13*) Paul describes the armor, then gives our assignment: “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.” (*Eph. 6:18*)

Our assignment is prayer, and we must be fully prepared. This passage comes at the end of Paul’s letter which tells us what it means to be prepared. Throughout Ephesians, Paul describes what it means to be in the Lord, “in Christ” as Christians, helping us understand the strength of our position in Christ. The letter also describes the life we’re to live in Christ—as children of light in a dark world.

Then in conclusion, Paul encourages us to be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power (*Eph. 6:10*). We can’t live the life he describes any other way; we must have Christ’s empowering strength through His Holy Spirit. And when we do, we come to prayer fully prepared, having daily “put on” the full armor of God—which is the lifestyle Paul has just described.

We don’t just recite these verses when we pray; we *live* these verses so that when we pray, God will hear and release His mighty power.

Pray with me now—Lord, help us realize that the effectiveness of our prayers depends upon the life we live. Enable us, for we ask in Jesus’ name, amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Have we put on the full armor of God?

In Ephesians 6, Paul tells us to put on the full armor of God as we come to the spiritual battleground of prayer.

The Greek word for “full armor” meant “complete equipment.” If any part of the armor was missing, Roman soldiers were vulnerable, as we are. Any chink in the armor makes us at risk to Satan, to the influence of the world, or to our own sinful nature.

Not only is our spiritual armor to be complete, but it is not meant as temporary protection. Paul tells us we’re to pray on all occasions, to keep on praying always (*Eph. 6:18*). There must never be a moment that we have not chosen to put on every piece of our spiritual armor.

What is this armor we’re to put on? In Romans 13, Paul said we’re to “put on the armor of light” and “to clothe ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.” (*Rom.13:12,14*) The Lord Jesus Christ is our armor.

Why, then, if we are Christians already in Christ—our armor of light—would Paul tell us we have responsibility to “put on” the armor? Because the armor represents Christ and the Spirit-filled life of personal fellowship with our Lord. Can any other thing protect us from the world, the flesh or the devil?

The authority and power with which we pray are based on the life we live in Christ.

Pray with me now—*Lord Jesus, may we live our lives hid in You, our armor of light, for we ask it in Your name. Amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Are we wearing our belt of truth?

In Ephesians 6, when Paul admonishes us to put on the “full armor of God” before standing our ground in prayer (*Eph. 6:10-18*), the first piece of armor he mentions is the belt of truth (*Eph. 6:14*). The belt was considered the most important part of the soldier’s armor because it held everything together.

Christ is our “armor of light,” (*Rom. 13:12*) and the belt is a symbol of our relationship with the One Who identified Himself as “the way, the truth and the life” (*John 14:6*)—and with His Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, Who lives with us and in us (*John 14:17*).

We cannot separate our prayer lives, or the armor that prepares us, from the life we are to live in Christ. The armor is our daily walk, the Spirit-filled life based on the truth of God’s Word that Paul describes in Ephesians. He was clear about how we should live, and not live, and cautioned us not to grieve the Spirit (*Eph. 4:30*).

As we come to pray, we must acknowledge Christ and our relationship with Him as our belt of truth. We must ask, “Lord, have I grieved Your Spirit? Have I lived by the objective truth of Your Word? Have I been truthful? Have I lied? Exaggerated the truth? Been hypocritical? Left wrong impressions? If we are not living God’s truth, God’s way, our belt of truth is not in place. Our fellowship and our prayers, are hindered.

Pray with me now—Father, check our armor. Tell us if we’re not truly in Christ, for we ask in His name, amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Have we put on our breastplate of righteousness?

Paul says we are to have in place the breastplate of righteousness. Have we not done that in receiving Christ as Savior and Lord? He is our armor of light (*Rom. 13:12*), the Righteous branch (*Jer. 33:15*). He is our righteousness.

While that is true, Paul’s letter is to Christians, saying we must continuously “put on” the breastplate of righteousness for prayer. How do we do that? Having all of Christ, through His Holy Spirit within us, what must we put on daily? When we check the definition of the Greek word, we find that it has the meaning of the “right action” that we are expected to take. It’s seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness.

The armor of God is not something we put on just for prayer. It represents the Spirit-filled life Paul describes in the book of Ephesians. It carries the meaning of conforming to the will of God, obeying God. It conveys the idea of our choosing and doing the right thing with the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

So as we come to prayer, we must check our own righteousness, the right actions of our lives, to see if our armor is in place. We must ask our Lord to tell us if it isn’t, so we can confess and restore our fellowship, and our protection, as we pray.

Pray with me now—*Lord, we can’t be righteous, we can’t make right choices, in our own strength. We ask for Your enabling power and for Your mercy when we fail. In Jesus’ name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Are our feet planted on solid ground when we pray?

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he includes instructions for our preparation for prayer (*Eph. 6:10-18*).

Paul uses the analogy of a soldier's armor, and as part of our armor, he tells us we're to have our feet fitted "with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace." (*Eph. 6:15*) We can't stand our ground in prayer any more than a soldier can stand his ground in battle, if our feet are not protected with sandals or boots. We must have firm footing and a sure foundation—as we do, through Christ.

Our shoes of peace, and the foundation on which they rest, is our Prince of Peace, who has reconciled us to God through His death on the cross. Through Christ, we have peace *with* God (*Rom. 5:1*), and in Christ, we can experience the peace *of* God which guards our hearts and minds (*Phil. 4:7*).

So must we take action beyond receiving Christ to fit ourselves with readiness for battle in prayer? Yes. The armor is a description of the Spirit-filled life Paul has just described, a life that does not grieve the Holy Spirit. When we lack inner peace, it can be an indication of grieving God's Spirit (*Eph. 4:30*) through sin or disobedience. We must confess, to restore the inner peace which comes from fellowship with Him, to assure that our armor is in place for prayer.

Pray with me now—Lord, we ask You to guard our hearts and minds with Your peace, through our Lord and Savior, our Prince of Peace, in Whose name we pray. Amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Have we taken up our shield of faith?

The shield of faith is an essential part of the armor of God that prepares us to stand our ground in prayer.

It's something we take up as part of the Spirit-filled life that Paul has described in Ephesians, a life made possible when we were first saved by God's grace, through faith in Christ (*Eph. 2:8*). Why, then, are we told to take up the shield of faith, if we're already Christians who have taken up our shield as we received Christ?

Our faith is something we exercise as we walk with the Lord, and the more we use it, the bigger and stronger it grows. Our shield of faith is the trust that increases with our knowledge of God, and through our experience with Him. It is one thing to learn about God by reading or hearing, and it is quite another to actively trust Him as we live by faith. The better we know our Lord and experience His faithfulness, the larger our shield.

God's promise is that our shield of faith "can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." (*Eph. 6:16*) He says it *can*, not it *will*—perhaps because we must choose to exercise our faith, to pick up our shield. It's our responsibility, through the life we live, to develop a shield of faith that protects us and prepares us for prayer.

Pray with me now—*Lord, we read in Your Word that You are our shield of faith. Help us to believe that it's true, for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Have we taken up the helmet of salvation?

In Ephesians 6, when Paul describes the spiritual armor of God that protects us when we stand our ground in prayer, he includes the helmet of salvation (*Eph. 6:17*).

We have to reach for the helmet of salvation, to appropriate it by receiving Christ as Savior and Lord. But why would Paul say that to Christians? Surely, we have already taken the helmet. We are now in Christ, secure in Him, knowing that we were fully justified by His death on the cross, that nothing can separate us from the love of God (*Rom. 8:39*).

But though we are new creatures in Christ when we are spiritually born again, we are not fully mature. We are in the process of learning to put off the old self and to be made new in the attitude of our minds (*Eph. 4:22,23*). It is our minds which are protected by the helmet. Satan would love to keep us in darkness, to keep us just enough off track that we are not living the Spirit-filled life that Paul describes in Ephesians.

Spiritual warfare is a battle for our minds. We must take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (*2 Cor. 10:5*), and ask for the transforming and renewing of our minds (*Rom. 12:1-2*) as we surrender our bodies as a living sacrifice. As we do, we take up the helmet, and we are able to stand protected in prayer.

Pray with me now—*Lord Jesus, help us to be willing to capture our thoughts for You and to surrender all that we are in Your name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Do we take up the sword of the Spirit when we pray?

Paul tells us, in his great passage on spiritual warfare, that the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God is our offensive weapon against Satan (*Eph. 6:10-18*). The truth defeats the deceiver, the father of lies.

In Ephesians 6 Paul is giving us our battle assignment against Satan, the means of applying spiritual covering for ourselves and loved ones through prayer. We're to live the life that is hid in Christ, our armor of light (*Rom. 13:12,14*). As we come to the place of prayer, we're to inspect the armor of our relationship with Him to see if there is anything that has allowed a chink in our armor, any break in our fellowship with Him. If we can come to stand our ground, secure in the full and complete armor of our unbroken relationship with Christ, we can indeed stand our ground in prayer and take up the Word of God as the sword that will defeat Satan at any point.

Jesus showed us exactly how to use the sword when He was tempted in the wilderness. He countered every action Satan took with Scripture, and Satan was defeated (*Matt. 4:1-11*). As we stand our ground in prayer, we can thrust Satan through with verse after verse from the Word. He cannot stand against the Truth.

Pray with me now—*Lord Jesus, thank You for showing us how easy it is to defeat Satan with the truth of Your Word. Help us to use it as effectively as You did, for we ask in Your name. Amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Why is it important to stand our ground in prayer?

There are many kinds of prayer we are to offer to the Lord. We come to His throne to worship with 100 million angels, praising His name, adoring His person. We kneel at His feet in brokenness, seeking forgiveness, grateful for mercy. We come into the secret place and ask for what we need. We stand before His throne of grace as intercessor priests for those we love.

And in Ephesians 6, Paul makes it clear we are also to stand our ground in prayer, taking up the battle against Satan, seeking the spiritual covering that will shield us and those we love against the forces of darkness. This is our battle assignment—to clothe ourselves in the full armor of God, take up the sword of the Spirit and stand against the god of this age. We are to pray “in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests...and to always pray for all of the saints.” (Eph. 6:18)

We stand because Satan is a real and powerful adversary, the prince and ruler of this world. We stand because Jesus has entrusted us with the keys of His kingdom and given us the right to use the authority of His name against Satan. We stand secure in our armor of light. We stand our ground in prayer, because we know we must.

Pray with me now—*Jesus, give us the courage and determination we need to stand in prayer, for those we love depend on our prayers. We ask in Your name, amen.*

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

Date: _____

Our Prayer for Spiritual Covering

Holy Father God,

We ask for spiritual discernment that we may understand how real Satan and his kingdom of darkness are, and what a significant threat they pose to this world and to Your children. Unless we see Satan as a real adversary, we will not take a stand in prayer against him, and he will have free reign in our lives, and in the lives of those we love.

Lord Jesus, thank You for allowing us the privilege of using Your name, Your authority against Satan. Help us to take that responsibility seriously, and to be courageous as we pray.

Christ Jesus, You are our armor of light. Help us to live secure in our love relationship with You, knowing that our armor is full and complete. You are our belt of Truth, our breastplate of Righteousness, our Prince of Peace Who has reconciled us to our God. You are our shield of faith, our helmet of salvation—and You are the incarnate Word of God.

Lord, we come to prayer clothed in You. You are our Christ. We are hidden in You and filled with Your Spirit. Help us stand our ground and give us courage to take on Satan with the sword of the Spirit, Your Word of truth—for Satan cannot stand against us, when we stand in You. May that truth be real in our lives, for we ask in Your holy name. Amen.

What I sense the Lord is saying to me—

My prayer response—

God wants me to—

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