



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Prayer Walk Mall Series, Lesson 25

Lesson Title: Security Central – Praying for Protection

Take Home Point: Pray for protection against the devil's schemes.

Warm-Up:

Have you ever thought about breaking out of earth's gravity by jumping just as high and as hard as you can? Of course not! You can meditate about it, sincerely want to do it, and even practice for hours every day, but you simply don't have the power to overcome that tremendous attraction. And it doesn't matter if you're at the ocean shore or on the highest mountain peak. Even the most athletic person doesn't have the strength to get higher than a few feet. What is the only way to do it? It requires an external power source; in fact, it takes an extremely powerful rocket to escape the pull of the planet.

Read: Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8

Observation (What happened?):

List the pieces of the armor of God available to us.

What are we repeatedly told to do in both the Ephesians and 1 Peter verses?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Who do you think are the rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world?

What does it mean to be spiritually alert?

Insight:

How do we prepare for the battles we will fight? We need to be in training constantly to be ready. We need to know the defensive and offensive weapons in God's armor, and know how and when to use them. We need to practice learning and remembering the truth. We need to practice righteousness. We need to know the gospel of peace and be ready to spread it. We need to exercise our faith by trusting God in all things, big and small. We need to understand and be 100% confident in our salvation given us by the sacrifice of the Son of God in our place. We need to know and memorize the word of God, to wield it against the whispers and half-truths of the enemy. We need to know how to pray by daily practice. We need to develop spiritual alertness to discern impending temptation or a direct attack. We need to be wise to know when to stand and fight, and when to retreat from unnecessary risk. We need to know ourselves well enough to recognize situations to avoid. We need to get back up when we fall, since God himself holds our hand. All these, if practiced on a regular, disciplined basis, prepare us for the spiritual warfare we are certain to face.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What spiritual struggle are you experiencing? What pieces of armor are you using?

Pray for the children in your small group to depend on God for strength to resist the devil and his schemes.

Kingdom Quest year 2