

# PUT. IT. ON.

WELS Women's Ministry Conference 2022  
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July 23, 2022

*See the WMConference 2022 Presentation to add more details to the answers given below.*

**Ephesians 6:10-20** **10 Finally**, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. **12** 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. **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16** In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** And 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 Lord's people. **19** Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, **20** for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

## **HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...**

### 1. God gives **A COMMAND**

- Not a discussion or agreement
- Like a soldier in an army, we obey God's command

### 2. God gives **EVERYTHING YOU NEED**

- All the spiritual blessings described in Ephesians 1 are ours
- To avoid a battle-weary soul, take advantage of spiritual blessings by putting on the armor of God

### 3. God gives **AN ARMY**

- Superhero movies give the wrong picture of our spiritual battle
- The YOU is both an individual and collective "you"
- Not "How am I resisting temptation?" but, "How are WE resisting temptation?"

### 4. God gives **THE VICTORY**

- The word "stand" pictures a victorious soldier standing over his defeated enemy
- With the armor of God, every battle's outcome is an Easter celebration.

## **HERE'S WHY YOU NEED TO KNOW IT...**

### 1. God knows **WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST**

- Rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world and spiritual forces in the heavenly realms

2. God knows **EVERYTHING ELSE FAILS**

- “Everything will work out in the end!” = no armor
- “I’ll go with that one instead!” = wrong armor

**HERE’S HOW IT’S GOING TO WORK...**

**1. STAND FIRM**

The word “stand” here refers to the soldier who knows the victory is his and therefore continues to get up and fight, over and over again.

	<b>For Me</b> <b>How does each piece of armor protect and defend?</b>	<b>For Others</b> <b>How can I help others put their armor on? Answers vary.</b>
<b>Belt of Truth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Apply God’s Truth first to our own inmost part first to ensure spiritual health flows elsewhere else</li> <li>-Convicts and redirects our reliance on Jesus</li> <li>-Reminds of forgiveness and status as a child of God</li> </ul>	
<b>Breastplate of Righteousness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-On our own, we cannot defend or hide from the accusation of the devil</li> <li>-Jesus righteousness neither defends nor absorbs the accusation</li> <li>-It points to Jesus whose life, death, and resurrection justifies us</li> </ul>	
<b>Feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of Peace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-A spiritual character of lightness and preparedness that is ready for anything</li> <li>-Comes from practicing, enjoying, and proclaiming peace with God</li> <li>-Thankfulness for everything that comes from God enables us to practice joyful peace and be ready to share peace with others</li> </ul>	

<b>Shield of Faith</b>	<p>-The shield protected a soldier at his most vulnerable during the fiercest fighting</p> <p>-Faith points to Jesus, our only defense when arrows of attack fly</p>	
<b>Helmet of Salvation</b>	<p>-Protects our thoughts and thinking</p> <p>-Focus on what is to come instead of "light and momentary trouble"</p>	
<b>Sword of the Spirit</b>	<p>-Rightly apply the Word of God to the situation at hand</p> <p>-Spend time <i>with</i> the Spirit to know how to use the Sword of the Spirit, be in the Word of God</p>	

<b>2. AND PRAY</b>		
<b>Every Kind</b>	Silent prayer, audible prayer, formal prayer, spontaneous prayer,	
<b>All The Time</b>	Not occasionally, but on all occasions, at every opportune moment	
<b>In The Spirit</b>	Not thoughtlessly, heart and mind and whole inner being involved, and when prompted by the Spirit.	
<b>Alert</b>	Awake, earnest determination to keep our minds on what we're saying. "It takes effort to pray wholeheartedly." (Habeck p. 135)	
<b>For the Saints</b>	For <i>all</i> the Lord's people, use Ephesians 1:16-19, use the armor of God as a template, praying for others puts relationships in perspective	
<b>For the Gospel</b>	To be boldly and fearlessly proclaimed by everyone in every situation	