

By Faith Put on the Armor of God Daily:

An excerpt from

Handbook for Christian Living: Biblical Answers to Life's Tough Questions

by Dr. Charles Stanley, p. 289.

One of the best habits you can develop is putting on the Armor of God every morning. This is spiritual armor, so you put it on by faith. The way to explain this is to walk you through a routine I follow every morning. I'm sure there are other ways of putting on the Armor of God. Paul didn't leave directions. The main thing is that you put it on! It goes something like this:

Good morning Lord. Thank you for assuring me of victory today. By faith I choose to follow Your battle plan and to prepare myself according to Your instructions.

To prepare myself for the battle ahead, by faith I put on **the belt of truth**. Renew my mind to what is true. Fill me with truth. Expose in my heart the lies that I am tempted to believe. The truth is that You are a sovereign God who loves me and cares for me. The truth about me is that I am your child - bought and paid for. Nothing can separate me from Your love.

By faith I put on **the breastplate of righteousness**. Today I am committed to doing what is right. I pray that I would be known as one who does what is right regardless of what it costs me. Allow the righteousness of Christ to shine through me today.

By faith I put on **the sandals of the gospel**. I am available to You. Use me in the lives of others. I pray that in my conduct and speech I would accurately represent You. Make me a calming presence everywhere I go.

I now take up **the shield of faith**. My faith is in You and You alone. Apart from You I can do nothing. In You, I can do all things. Everything that comes against me must come through You, for I am in You. As you walked without sin on the earth, live without sin through me today. By faith I claim victory over _____ (then I list some of the temptations I know I will face that day). When I face those temptations, remind me that the victory has already been won.

By faith I put on **the helmet of salvation**. Thank You for saving me. Thank You for forgiving me. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to live inside me. Holy Spirit, I surrender my will to You today. I surrender my thoughts to You. I choose to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

And last, I take **up the sword of the Spirit**, which is the Word of God.

(Then I claim several specific promises from Scripture.)

So Lord, I go now rejoicing that You have chosen me to represent You to this lost world. May others see Jesus in me. May Satan and his hosts shudder as Your power is manifest through me.

In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.