

THE SHIELD OF FAITH #3

EL ESCUDO DE LA FE

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

Begin with the Sermon Spice video Clip “Armor”

Let’s review Paul’s underlying presuppositions

1. WE ARE IN A SPIRITUAL WAR!

¡ESTAMOS PARTE DE UNA GUERRA ESPIRITUAL!

2. WE CANNOT STAND ON OUR OWN!

¡NO PODEMOS VALER POR SÍ MISMOS!

3. GOD HAS PROVIDED PROTECTIVE ARMOR!

¡DIOS NOS HA EQUIPADO CON ARMADURA PROTECTURA!

We are focusing on

The Shield of Faith

El Escudo de la Fe

Five points make up the shield of faith – practice it

1. I believe God is who he says he is and will do what he says he will do!

Creo que Dios es quien dice y que hará que dice que va a hacer.

2. I believe I am who God says I am and I can do whatever he asks me to do!

¡Creo que soy quien Dios dice y que puedo hacer todo lo que me pide que haga!

3. The Word of God is true, alive and powerful!

¡La Palabra de dios es verdad, está viva, y es poderosa!

4. Prayer changes things!

¡El rezo cambia cosas!

5. The Church is the Body of Christ and together we can accomplish Jesus mission!

¡La Iglesia es el Cuerpo de Dios y juntos podemos alcanzar la misión de Jesús!

We have to have faith or we will not make it. Hebrews 6:11 says without faith it is impossible to please God. Faith is critical to our spiritual survival.

Faith is an action word! It must be exercised. It is exercised when we accept Christ, but it must be ongoing and continual.

Paul says in Eph 1:18-20, that the power of God which raised Jesus from the dead will be in us and working through us if we continue to exercise faith.

The first finger-the thumbs up of raising the shield of faith

1. I believe God is who he says he is and will do what he says he will do!

Creo que Dios es quien dice y que hará que dice que va a hacer.

We have a big and powerful God. He created the world, he maintains and sustains it. He created life on our earth: plants, animals, fish, birds and humans. He designed every part of us.

God has a conversation with humanity that wants to tell him what to do. He says which one of you created the world. Which one of you holds it in your hand? Which one of you has given me counsel? He is an awesome God!

He is big enough to create and govern the whole universe while at the same time care about every detail of your life. Let me review those scriptures once again.

God knows your name! Isaiah 43:1-3

¡Dios sabe su nombre! Isaías 43:1-3

God has promised to bless you! Jeremiah 29:11

¡Dios ha prometido bendecirte! Jeremías 29:11

God has promised you victory!

¡Dios se ha prometido la Victoria!

God has promised us rest! Hebrews 4:9

¡Dios nos ha prometido la descansa! Hebreos 4:9

God has promised to answer our prayers! John 15:7

¡Dios ha prometido contestar a nuestras oraciones! Juan 15:7

God has promised that you will bear fruit! John 15:5

¡Dios ha prometido que darás frutos! Juan 15:5

How Big is your God. Most American's pray to God on a regular basis. But when you listen to them talk about him, it seems that he is either pretty small, not listening, or unwilling to act.

Follow along with me. If you believe God is who he says he is, (say amen if you do), then you have to believe what God says about you! The second point of the shield of faith is

#2 I believe I am who God says I am and I can do whatever he asks me to do!

¡Creo que soy quien Dios dice y que puedo hacer todo lo que me pide que haga!

This may be the hardest point for many people in here because, Satan doesn't want you to believe what God says about you! ¡Satanás no quiere que crea lo que dice Dios de usted!

Many have believed the lie about who they are from Satan for so long that they can't see themselves any other way. He loves to throw flaming arrows of self-doubt and self-hatred. Do you know there are people sitting here today who feel terrible about themselves? Do you know that there are people here today who hate themselves?

How many of you believe that the worst place to get a self identity is from Hell.

Sometimes using other people to carry the message. Satan has effectively used moms and dads to tell kids that they are no good and that they will amount to nothing. There are many people who die believing the lie that Satan told through parents.

Sometimes he uses kids at school. Kids can be mean. Sometimes he uses a boss, sometimes a spouse, or a friend. Sometimes he uses your kids to set your self identity.

He can use sports, or school work.

Sometimes he uses the church. Most of the time church people don't actually say anything, but here is what can happen. A person who is broken and needy comes to church and reluctantly walks in. See they are reluctant because they are carrying this heavy burden of brokenness. They are feeling strongly that they have messed up. They walk in and they see all these smiling people, (we smile generally at church because that is the mask we put on when we get dressed.) They hear from Satan that all these people have their lives together and are happy, clean, no sin, never messed up. And the more hands they shake the more they hear Satan saying, you don't belong here, because you are one messed up man, woman, teenager, or kid.

This makes the work of our ushers all the more important. Maybe on the greeter/usher badge it should give a listing of sins, mistakes and reasons why they shouldn't be allowed to be at the church and certainly greeting people.

We can't do that; but if you are here struggling with this, please know that no one here deserves to be God's child! No one here deserves to be in a place of ministry! No one here is clean and pure on their own! And, many of the people who are smiling and doing ministry have unbelievable skeletons in their closet. They had to be forgiven of a bunch of stuff.

It is so important that we believe what God says about us and not what Satan says about us.

Stop for prayer

I believe that I am who God says I am!

✓ **God says you are created in his image!**

¡Dios dice que está creado por su imagen!

God got down into the dirt and fashioned Adam and Eve. He gave to them the privilege and responsibility of creation. Yes, it is true that he didn't fashion you out of the dirt, your parents came together and participated in God's creation.

Your parents created you physically, you carry their genes. God created your spirit and put in you. How does he do this? I don't know!

Some are here saying my parents were not participating in God's creation when I was conceived. Some here were born out of wedlock, a product of rape, or an unwanted pregnancy.

Made in his image means you have the freedom to choose

- ✓ **God loves you even if you never love him back!**

¡Dios le ama a usted incluso si nunca usted le ama también a Él!

- ✓ **He sent his Son to suffer and die for your sin so you could be forgiven and enjoy eternal life!**

¡Mandó su hijo para sufrir y morir para sus pecados para que pueda ser perdonado y disfrute de la vida eterna!

- ✓ **He has a plan for your life!**

¡Tiene un plan para su vida!

- **Plan for relationship with God**

Plan para una relación con Dios

- **Plan for purpose**

Plan para propósito

- **Plan for love in this life**

Plan para amor durante esta vida

- **Plan for joy**

Plan para la alegría

- **Plan for eternal life**

Plan para la vida eterna

All this is true no matter what you choose to do.

Ephesians 1:3-8

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. **4** Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. **5** God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. **6** So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son.[a] **7** He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. **8** He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

Efesios 1:3-8

3 Alabado sea Dios, Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que nos ha bendecido en las regiones celestiales con toda bendición espiritual en Cristo. 4 Dios nos escogió en él antes de la creación del mundo, para que seamos santos y sin mancha delante de él. En amor 5 nos predestinó para ser adoptados como hijos suyos por medio de Jesucristo, según el buen propósito de su voluntad, 6 para alabanza de su gloriosa gracia, que nos concedió en su Amado. 7 En él tenemos la redención mediante su sangre, el perdón de nuestros pecados, conforme a las riquezas de la gracia 8 que Dios nos dio en abundancia con toda sabiduría y entendimiento.

God has:

Dios se ha:

✓ **Blessed you with every spiritual blessing!**

¡Bendito con cada bendición espiritual!

✓ **Loved you!**

¡Amado a usted!

✓ **Chosen you to be in his family!**

¡Escogido ser parte de su familia!

✓ **Made you holy by the work of Christ!**

¡Hecho sagrado por el trabajo de Jesucristo!

✓ **Poured his grace on you!**

¡Vertido su gracia sobre usted!

✓ **Showered you with kindness!**

¡Colmado de amabilidad!

✓ **Set you free!**

¡Liberado a usted!

In other places we read:

✓ **Filled you with His Spirit!**

¡Llenado con Su Espíritu!

✓ **Gifted you by his Spirit!**

¡Dado talentos por Su Espíritu!

✓ **Called for ministry!**

¡Llamado para ministerio!

✓ **Working in every circumstance for you good!**

¡Dios está trabajando en cada circunstancia para su bienestar!

✓ **Christ is preparing an eternal home for you in heaven!**

¡Jesucristo está preparando un hogar para usted en el cielo!

Now because of all that God has done for you there is another part to this point in the shield of faith.

✓ I believe I am who God says I am and I can do whatever he asks me to do!

¡Creo que soy quien Dios dice y que puedo hacer todo lo que me pide que haga!

Listen to some scripture about this.

Philippians/ Filipenses 4:13

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Cristo me da fuerzas para enfrentarme a toda clase de situaciones.

2 Corinthians/ Corintios 9:8

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

Dios puede darles muchas cosas, a fin de que tengan todo lo necesario, y aun les sobre. Así podrán hacer algo en favor de otros.

Ephesians/Efesios 3:17-21

17 Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. 18 And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. 19 May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

20 Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. 21 Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

También le pido a Dios que Jesucristo viva en sus corazones, gracias a la confianza que tienen en él, y que vivan sólo para amar a Dios y a los demás. 18 Así, con todos los que formamos el pueblo de Dios, podrán comprender ustedes el amor de Cristo en toda su plenitud. 19 Le pido a Dios que puedan conocer ese amor, que es más grande de lo que podemos entender, para que reciban todo lo que Dios tiene para darles.

20 Dios tiene poder para hacer mucho más de lo que le pedimos. ¡Ni siquiera podemos imaginarnos lo que Dios puede hacer para ayudarnos con su poder! 21 Todos los que pertenecemos a la iglesia de Cristo, debemos alabarle por siempre. Amén.