

## Battle Ready

2020-08-26 Bible Study  
By Pastor Sharon

*“While women weep, as they do now, I’ll fight;  
while children go hungry, as they do now I’ll fight;  
while men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I’ll fight;  
while there is a drunkard left,  
while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets,  
while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I’ll fight,  
I’ll fight to the very end!”*

Read and reflect on the quote above from The Salvation Army’s founder, General William Booth. What has him fighting? Why? Can you relate? These words were shared over 100 years ago. Are they still relevant today? If so, what part do you feel you are called to play in this fight?

Read and reflect on Joshua 1:6-9. What words of encouragement did God offer Joshua? Many battles lay ahead for God’s people as they entered the Promised Land with Joshua at the lead. How would these words have helped Joshua in his leadership role? What battles are you facing today ... in your everyday life ... in your spiritual journey? How can these words spoken to Joshua, but also offered to you, help you?

Read and reflect on King David’s Song of Praise given in 2 Samuel 22. What verses in this song speak of warfare? How did David approach the battles he encountered? What lessons on spiritual warfare can you claim from this song? How might you need to apply them in your life today?

Read and reflect on 2 Timothy 2:1-3. What does Paul ask of his spiritual son Timothy? Why? What does it mean to “be strong in grace”? What does it mean to “endure suffering ... as a good soldier of Christ Jesus”? Why would Paul use that picture/analogy? Do you see yourself as a ‘soldier of Christ Jesus’? If so, what does that mean for you? What wars are you fighting for Him/in His Name?

Read and reflect on the story of Jesus' arrest shared in Matthew 26:47-56. What lessons on spiritual warfare must we take from this circumstance? How are battles to be waged in the Kingdom of God? How are they not to be waged?

Read and reflect on Ephesians 6:10-18. How is the Christian soldier's armour captured in this passage? What are the different parts of the armour and what does each part represent? As you reflect on each part, are there any that you need to take on right now? Why? What do you need to do to 'put on' or 'take' or 'take up' that part of the armour?

Read and reflect on Hebrews 4:12. The Christian's sword is the Word of God (The Bible). What does this verse teach about God's Word? Read and reflect on 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What do these verses teach about God's Word? What is its intended purpose? How effective are you at wielding this sword? How can you become more effective in using it to fight evil?

Read and reflect on Matthew 5:38-48. What does this teaching from Jesus teach about our interactions with enemies? How are we to fight the evil around us? Why?