

# Intentional

## Read: The Whole Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

**10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

**11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. 13**

**Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

**14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints**

## Explain: The Whole Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

### Are there any repeated words?

Take, put, stand, and against

These are very telling repeated words. We need to take, and we need to put in order to stand against.

This was not the original plan for my lesson. **He's intentional picture.**

The fact that God is intentional was stuck in my head after she left this note. It had me thinking about His plan and purpose for my life and that all He does was in His plan long before I could even think about it.

## What do the words mean?

**10 Finally, my brethren, be strong** [imperative] **in the Lord and in the power of His might** [ability, force, strength]. [**Be strong**, a command, the first of many in these verses. **Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might**. On our own, apart from the Lord we can do nothing. He gives us our strength. Only with Him can we face what these verses talk about. We are to be mighty in His power—not in the thought that we can do things on our own. The song *He Said* by Group 1 Crew says, “I might let you bend, but I won’t let you break”. I have a hard time with the lyric, I for one, have been broken. My mom once told me that broken pots are stronger once repaired, depending on what they are repaired with. Repaired simply with glue the pot may hold for a while but soon the pot will cease to be able to function as intended. However, if the pot is filled with a permanent solution, it can still function as a pot and have beautiful lines running through it to indicate it was once broken.] **11 Put on** [imperative] **the whole armor** [complete armor] **of God, that you may be able to stand** [to cause or make to stand, to place, put, set] **against the wiles of the devil** [cunning arts, deceit, craft, trickery]. [The word put in this verse means, to sink into (clothing), put on, clothe one’s self. We are to clothe ourselves in the full armor. Full armor, according to what I looked up means, complete armor, that’s your blank...complete. The shield alone could weigh 25 pounds. There are times when I have the full armor on that I think I look like this. **Picture of armor**. Yep, ready for battle. I know that really, it’s more like this. **Picture of kid**. Nothing really fits, and I might be just a little terrified of what I am facing. **Picture of Darth Maul**. We have to remind ourselves that not all evil forces look like evil forces. Even though it would be a whole lot easier if they did. The New International Version of **2 Corinthians 11:14** says, **And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. Charles Spurgeon: Discernment is not knowing the difference between right and wrong. It is knowing the difference between right and almost right.**] **12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** **13 Therefore take up** [imperative] **the whole armor** [full armor] **of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

**14 Stand** [imperative] **therefore, having girded** [to fasten garments with a girdle or belt] **your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,** [Again, Paul mentions that we should take up the **whole armor**. Emphasizing that no part should be left out. If a piece is missing, then our armor is not complete. The belt is the first thing mentioned; it helps hold other garments on and protects the mid-section of the soldier. **Matthew Henry** [on the belt]: **Girds on** [secures] **all the other pieces of our armor. Truth should cleave to us as a belt cleaves to our body.** Just like a belt goes around our waist, Gods truth should surround us. The breastplate covers the torso of the soldier. It covers vital organs that without the breastplate covering them, leaves the soldier very vulnerable.] **15 and having shod** [to underbind, to bind under one's self, bind on] **your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;** [The New King James Version uses the word **shod**, meaning to bind. Other translations say **feet fitted** some just say **shoes on your feet**. No matter the translation, we need to have our shoes on. Since its Mother's Day, a question for all the moms in the room. How many times have you said one of the following: "Where are your shoes?" "Put your shoes on!" "Tie your shoes." Why do we remind our kids about their shoes? Shoes are important. **J's shoe story.** There is a reason that shoes are mentioned in the armor of God. You aren't fully ready until you have your shoes on. They can help center us, help us keep our balance.] **16 above all, taking** [to **take up** (a thing in order to carry or use it)] **the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.** [This is the first item that we take. And not just **take**—but **take up**. When "the arrows fly" our faith in Christ helps shield us from the damage they cause. We just have to ensure that our faith is in the right place.] **17 And take** [imperative] **the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;** [Take means it's available to us. We just have to take it. Take . . . salvation. **Hebrews 4:12: For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.** To put it in Puggle speak, "The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me. I stand alone on the word of God, the B-I-B-L-E. Bible!"] **18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints**

## G's story

**Psalm 139:13-18:**

**13 For You formed my inward parts;**

**You covered me in my mother's womb.**

**14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made;**

**Marvelous are Your works,**

**And *that* my soul knows very well.**

**15 My frame was not hidden from You,**

**When I was made in secret,**

**And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.**

**16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.**

**And in Your book they all were written,**

**The days fashioned for me,**

**When as yet *there were* none of them.**

**17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!**

**How great is the sum of them!**

**18 *If* I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand;**

**When I awake, I am still with You.**

**Picture from Mike and Cherie's.** "Not Lucky, Just Jesus." Just Jesus, I say that with the most reverence because unlike what I think most days, that's all I need . . . just Jesus.

**Picture of shoes.** As we stand with our armor on, ready to face this life, let's all remember to put our shoes on.

**Apply (What is the point?)**

1. God has what we need
2. We must be ready
3. **Where are your shoes?**

**Personalize (What do we do with that?)**

1. **Take up**
2. **Put on**
3. **Stand against**