

CLOSING DOORS

God's Ways Are Higher, Part 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * August 12, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

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. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
Ephesians 6:13-17

3 PIECES OF "FULL ARMOR OF GOD"

The Belt of _____ (v. 14)
Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:32

The Breastplate of _____ (v. 14b)
Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.
Proverbs 4:23

All our righteous acts are like filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6

God made him who had no sin (Jesus) to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness. Ephesians 4:22-24

The Shoes of _____ (v. 15)
Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7 (NAS)

CLOSING DOORS/FOOTHOLDS

And do not give the devil a foothold. Ephesians 4:27

When an evil spirit comes out of anyone, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. Matthew 12:43-45

If you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you... Genesis 4:7

COMMON OPEN DOORS TO SATAN'S ATTACKS

Unforgiveness	Pride	Addictions	Selfishness
Bitterness	Idolatry	Sexual sins	Greed
False religions	Hate	Cursing	Rebellion

Ephesians 4:26-27; Hebrews 12:15; Leviticus 19:31

HOW TO CLOSE THE DOORS

1. Ask God to show you the open doors.
"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts. And see if there be any wicked way in me..." Psalm 139:23-24
2. Tell God in faith you want to deal with the problems.
He asked him, "Do you want to get well?" John 5:6
3. Repent of those sins.
Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7
4. Apply the truth of the Word of God.
Psalm 119:9; Proverbs 8:13
5. Ask Jesus to restore and heal the damage.
After you have suffered a little while, God will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. 1 Peter 5:10
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. Stand firm then... Ephesians 6:13-14

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*