

Fathers' Studies: Family Responsibilities

"...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

LESSON 43 OF 52

SPIRITUAL PROTECTION

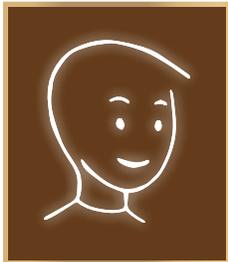
LESSON AIM: To learn how to give spiritual protection from evil forces to a family.

KEY VERSE:

1. **EPHESIANS 6:10-12** A man must put on _____ in order to fight against the evil spiritual powers of this world.
2. **PROVERBS 14:26** Those who trust in the Lord will have _____.
3. **JOB 1:9-10** God put _____ around Job to protect him from Satan.
4. **PSALM 91:4** God will protect you with His wings, and His truth and faithfulness will be _____.
5. **JOSHUA 1:8** Knowing God's Book makes life go right. What does God say one should do with His Book day and night? _____.

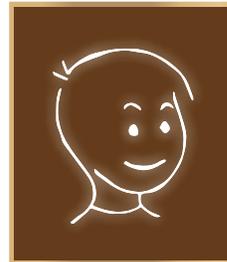
PERSONAL NOTES:

For You To Do



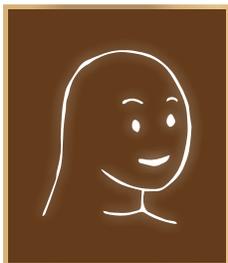
By Yourself

Make a checklist of the pieces of spiritual armour found in Ephesians 6:13-17. Every morning take out the list and "put on" each piece of armour as you pray.



With Your Children

Start a family Bible memory project to memorize Psalm 91. Give rewards for those who finish it.



With Your Wife

Sit very close together and spread a blanket over your heads as you read Psalm 91 and claim its promises. Pretend that the blanket is "the wings of the Almighty" (verse 4).

God is the protector of families. He does not want to see them destroyed. If families stay under God's protection, Satan and his demons will not be able to hurt them. If families step outside of God's protection, they are wide open to attack by evil spiritual forces.

God has given two beautiful word pictures of His protection. He shows how you can have this protection.

WINGS OF PROTECTION (Psalm 91:4) When danger threatens, a hen gathers her chicks under her wings to protect them. But the chicks must be willing to stay under her wings. God promises this kind of protection to the father who is willing to do several things:

- Live in God's secret place (verse 1). He stays close to God, talks to God, and trusts Him.
- Love God (verse 14). God is No. 1 in his life. This father also shares love with his family and others around him.
- Call upon God (verse 15). He knows that God is in control of everything. When trouble or danger comes, he does not get angry or afraid but trusts God to take care of him.

God also promises to protect the place where this man lives (verse 10). Because the father stays under God's protection, and his family accepts his leadership, God will protect his family too.

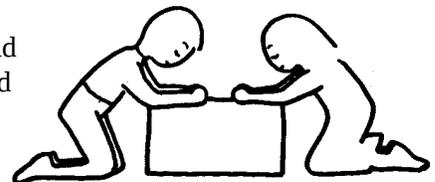
ARMOUR OF PROTECTION (Ephesians 6:10-18) This armour protects a father when he is attacking the forces of evil, not when he is running away. There is no protection for the back. His weapons of protection are truth, right living, the gospel of peace, faith, salvation, the Word of God, and prayer. The father who uses all these will be able to stand against the attacks of the Evil One.

If the home is without a father, it can still have God's protection if the parent or guardian uses the armour of protection and stays under God's wings of protection.

WE USE THE THINGS GOD GIVES TO FIGHT WITH AND THEY HAVE POWER. THOSE THINGS GOD GIVES TO FIGHT WITH DESTROY THE STRONG PLACES OF THE DEVIL. (2 CORINTHIANS 10:4)

WINDOW TO LIFE

Sam was married and had five children. He loved his children and was concerned about their spiritual protection. When the children were young, Sam dedicated each one to the Lord. As they grew up he taught them to fear Lord. All of his children accepted Christ as their Saviour. Sam taught them how to recognize Satan's temptations and how to resist the Devil. Sam stayed strong in his Christian life so that his life would help to protect his children. They did not rebel against him but stayed under his protection. Sam and his wife prayed for God to protect them. Now their children are grown, and all are victorious Christians.



God loves and protects families who trust Him.

God spreads His wings over families who love Him.

Fathers who use the spiritual armour can stand against the attacks of evil.