

Spiritual Warfare

Breastplate of Righteousness

TNT BIBLE STUDY
SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER 12, 2019

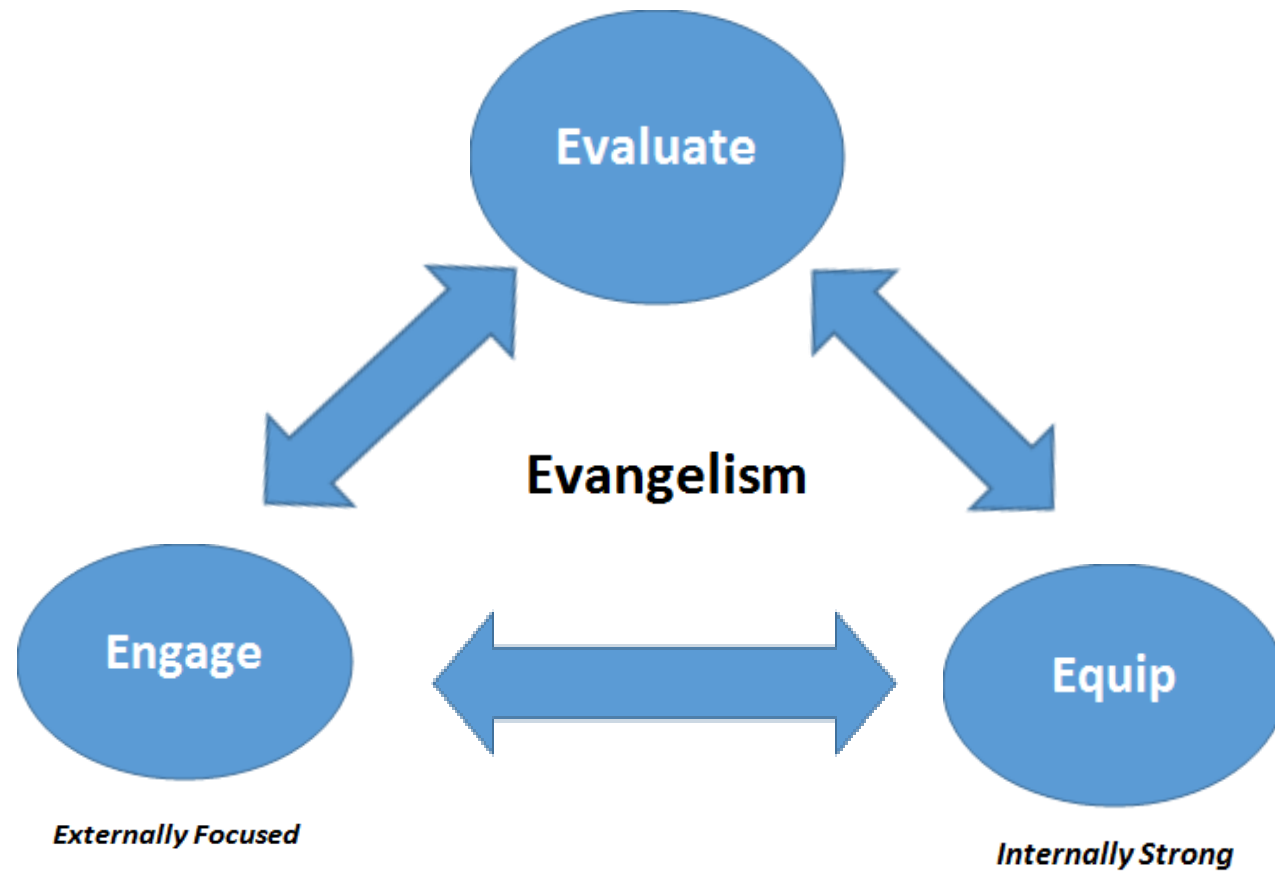
Vision Statement

“Our vision is to be one church actively advancing the Kingdom of God.”

Mission Statement

"Our mission is to spread the message of faith, hope, and love in Jesus Christ by equipping disciples to engage the community, locally and globally, for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God."

MINISTRY FRAMEWORK (Continuum)



Spiritual Warfare

Ephesians 6:10-18

Spiritual Warfare

Spiritual Warfare is a battle for your life conducted in the spirit realm with natural manifestations.

Spiritual Warfare

“If you are a Christian, you’re in a battle whether you realize it or not. The battle is for your mind, your spirit, and ultimately your life.”

Tony Evans

Prayers for Victory in Spiritual Warfare

Ephesians 6:14

“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness.”

Stand Therefore

- ❖ **Stand - to hold the post, to resist in the battle of the present time.**

Barth, M. (2008). *Ephesians: Introduction, translation, and commentary on chapters 4-6* (Vol. 34A, pp. 764–765). New Haven; London: Yale University Press.

Stand Therefore

- ❖ **Stand on the covenant or word or command of God,**
- ❖ **Stand on the New Covenant**
 - ❖ **Matthew 26:26-29**
 - ❖ **Hebrews 8:1-13**
- ❖ **Stand in Worship (Coming before God)**

Stand Therefore

- ❖ **Stand on the Word**
- ❖ **Stand through Faith**
- ❖ **Stand Through the Spiritual Disciplines**

Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (p. 1083). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

Gird

- ❖ **As to its physical nature 'girdle' could be the leather apron which was put on under the breastplate and offered some protection to the lower part of the abdomen while leaving freedom of movement and readiness for action.**

Best, E. (1998). *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on Ephesians* (p. 598). Edinburgh: T&T Clark International.

Gird Oneself

- ❖ **To gird is of a body part being encircled (EP 6:14);**
- ❖ **Figuratively, girding denotes readiness for activity, ungirding denotes rest; idiomatically, literally *tighten the belt around the waist, i.e. get ready, prepare oneself (EP 6:14)***

God is Truth

- ❖ ***“authenticity,” “divine reality,” “revelation,” This is not just a knowledge of a complex of statements but an encounter with Christ, who is the truth (Jn. 14:6) and who sanctifies in truth (Jn. 17:17, 19).***
- ❖ ***God himself is disclosed herewith, the incarnate word being “full of grace and truth” (Jn. 1:14; cf. v. 17).***
- ❖ ***Worship in truth is to be understood similarly, i.e., not just in pure knowledge but as determined by God’s own reality, in pneúma (Spirit), and by the revelation made in Jesus (Jn. 4:23–24).***

God is Truth

- ❖ ***Again, the Paraclete as the Spirit of truth ensures ongoing revelation in the community (Jn. 14:17; 16:13; cf. 1 Jn. 5:6), and this comes to expression in right doctrine (1 Jn. 2:21) and a right way of life (1 Jn. 1:6).***
- ❖ ***Thus the church's witness may be equated with that of truth (3 Jn. 12) and Christians are to be fellow workers in the truth (3 Jn. 8), loving one another in the truth and united in truth and love (2 Jn. 1ff.)***

Belt of Truth

“When a soldier tightened his belt, he was ready for combat, it tightened his tunic...held his sword in place...held everything in place. Without it, he would be powerless in battle.”

R. Kent Hughes, *Ephesians: The Mystery of Christ*, (Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 1990), p. 224

Belt of Truth

“Without clinching ourselves tightly with the truth of Scripture, the other weapons of our warfare will clatter in disarray.

R. Kent Hughes, *Ephesians: The Mystery of Christ*, (Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 1990), p. 224

Breastplate

❖ **θώραξ *thórax*; noun. A breastplate or armor covering the body from the neck to the thighs. It consisted of two parts, one covering the front and the other the back**

Zodhiates, S. (2000). *The complete word study dictionary: New Testament* (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.

Righteousness

- ❖ ***A status of legal rectitude that satisfies the moral requirements of God's character***

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ ***Why is it important to cover the front and the back with righteousness?***

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ **Your vitals (heart, soul...the seat of your emotions) must be covered with the righteousness of God.**

Breastplate of Righteousness

Proverbs 4:23

Breastplate of Righteousness

❖ **The soldiers of Eph 6:10–20 fight their battle not only on fields but also in courtrooms.**

Barth, M. (2008). *Ephesians: Introduction, translation, and commentary on chapters 4-6* (Vol. 34A, p. 769). New Haven; London: Yale University Press.

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ **Remember Satan is the accuser of the brothers and sisters!**

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- ❖ **Christ did this for us so that we can point to Christ in whom we stand faultless as the righteousness of God!**

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Isaiah 59:16-21

Breastplate of Righteousness

II Corinthians 5:17-21

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ **Since we are covered in battle with our identity as the righteousness of God what should be our response to God?**

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ There is an obedience that leads to righteousness (Rom. 6:16). The pardoning righteousness that is given commits us to righteousness as a living power that breaks the bondage of sin. Hence, while righteousness is not a state or quality, it becomes right action.

Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (pp. 174–175). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

Breastplate of Righteousness

- ❖ **The breastplate is now that of righteousness, and what is in view is most likely the righteousness that we have before God by faith in Christ (Rom. 3:22). Enclosed in this, we are secure against all evil assaults (8:38–39). It issues, of course, in righteousness of life, and for this reason protects against temptation.**

Breastplate of Righteousness

Jude 24-25