

Men's Bible Study **Calvary Chapel** Cajon

Ephesians 6:15,16 - Gospel of Peace; Shield of Faith

Pray; Read Ephesians 6:14-19

This week we will concentrate on Ephesians 6:15-16. Read verses 15-16 and record it below.

GOSPEL OF PEACE

1. Putting on the third piece of armor requires that we have our feet *shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*. Using a Bible Dictionary (or an English Dictionary) define:

shod

preparation

gospel

peace

- a. Before you study this verse in depth, what do you think it means?

Consider: the provision made for the Roman soldier's feet was a certain type of sandal. More important than the top of the sandal was its bottom. The sole of the sandal had cleats which gave them the ability to grip and not slip.

2. Think about your feet for a moment. They tend to be a part of our body that is neglected - as long as they are working properly. If they are not, they are suddenly appreciated. What are some of the purposes of your feet?
3. Why do you think feet are a good example to use to be *shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*?
4. Simply stated, the *gospel* is the good news that man can be made right with God by believing in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Besides salvation, what has the *gospel* brought in to your life?

5. Read the following verses and reflect upon the *peace* that God gives:

Psalm 34:14

Isaiah 48:18

2 Corinthians 13:11

Colossians 3:15

Isaiah 26:3

Luke 1:79

a. Summarize this *peace* as described in the verses above.

b. From the verses above, summarize the believer's part in walking in *peace*.

6. Why is a life that lacks *peace* a poor reflection of the *gospel*?

7. Our second responsibility to the *gospel* is to share it with others. Read the following verses and record what they say about sharing the *good news*.

Isaiah 52:7

Romans 10:14-15

a. What is so *beautiful* about *feet* that are used to spread the *gospel*?

8. How might actively sharing the *gospel* be a protection against enemy attacks?

9. Because of the *gospel*, we can have *peace*. Read Philippians 4:6-9 and record what believers can do that will insure God's *peace* in their lives.

a. According to verse 6, what can be the result of not doing these things?

1.) What are some ways Satan can take advantage of someone who is *anxious*?

Challenge: What are some of the things Paul taught that, if followed, would bring *peace*?

10. We are to have our *feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*. Why do you think Paul used the example of *feet* to express this piece of armor?
 - a. What belief expressed by Paul in Romans 1:16 caused him not to be *ashamed of the gospel*?

11. What have you learned from this lesson that has encouraged you to seriously consider how you *shod your feet*?

SHIELD OF FAITH

1. As we study this lesson, we will be figuratively taking up our *shield*. Using a Bible Dictionary (or an English Dictionary) define:
faith
 - a. Write out one of your favorite verses that addresses the subject of *faith*.

2. The *shield of faith* is a vital piece of armor. All of the rest of the pieces of armor will be unable to fully protect you in battle if you are without your *shield*. What two words in verse 16 confirm that it is so important?
 - a. What part does a *shield* play in protecting a soldier in battle?

3. How important is *faith* to God? See Hebrews 11:6.
 - a. Define *faith* using Hebrews 11:1.
 - 1.) What is the difference between *hoping* for something and having *faith* that something will occur?

4. Mark recorded several statements made by Jesus concerning *faith*. What did Jesus say about *faith* in:

Mark 5:36

Luke 17:6

5. God requires that we trust Him/have *faith* in Him. What do these verses tell us about God that should cause us to know we can rely upon Him?

1 Corinthians 10:13

1 Thessalonians 5:24

2 Thessalonians 3:3

2 Timothy 2:13

- a. Using the verses above, summarize God's *faithfulness*.

6. God is *faithful*. *Faith* pleases God. According to Ephesians 6:16, what will we be *able* to do when we *take the shield of faith*?

- a. Satan has an entire arsenal of *darts* (means by which to challenge your *faith*). What are some of the thoughts he uses to attack the believer's *faith*?

7. God provides the reason to walk in *faith*. He provides the *shield of faith* for us to take up. What do the following verses say about our responsibility?

Jude 1:3

Jude 1:20

- a. Using the verses above, list some of the words used to describe our responsibility.

8. How has this lesson challenged you to take up the *shield of faith*?