

Lesson Guide

National Women's Auxiliary Department

(Target Group – All Ages)

Topic: *“The Danger of Not Using Our Spiritual Weapons”*
Sub-Topic: *Weapons that Ensure Victory*

I. Introduction

The national theme for the year is: *“Save Yourself From This Untoward Generation”* and the women's auxiliary focus is *“Laying Aside Every Weight and Habits of Sin That So Easily Entangle Us.”* We must first realize that these commands or exhortations did not originate from the Progressive Church but from God. When God commands or exhorts us to do something, He always gives us the weapons to succeed. What are weapons? Weapons are apparatus in which we use to fight with. The type of battle we are in will determine the type of weapons we use. As Christian women, we are in a spiritual warfare therefore our weapons must be **spiritual**.

As we use the following weapons, it is important that we keep our focus on Jesus and not on the battle because the battle is His.

II. Spiritual Weapons

A. Positive Attitude

We must think victory. Never go into a battle thinking you are going to lose. You have the God of Heaven and all His angels on your side. No weapon formed against you shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17).

With God we are more than conquerors (Romans 8:37).

B. Prayer

“If my people who are called by my name would humble themselves and pray, I will hear from heaven and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14) This is a promise from God and God never breaks His promises. When the weapon of prayer is used properly, it not only gets God attention but is mighty in changing us. This is a double benefit. This weapon can be used any time of the day. How wonderful it is that we can go directly to God at any time. A time of prayer can call you out of a world of care and bid you to the Father's throne where He awaits to hear and bear all your petitions. If we fail to pray I am reminded of the hymn *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”* that says what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer but goes on to say, *“O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.”* Let us take this weapon of prayer and use it daily. The prayer of a righteous man or woman availeth much (James 5:17).

C. The Word of God

This powerful weapon is priceless. When we get the Word of God in our hearts there will be no room for the many weights and habits of sin that so easily entangle us. The Word of God helps us to walk in the will of God as well as be an effective witness for Him. Failing to get the Word of God in our hearts will cause us to walk in ignorance, fall into deception, follow after false doctrines and experience spiritual poverty.

D. Fasting

As we walk this Christian journey the flesh is constantly fighting against God. Fasting is one of those weapons that help us bring the flesh into submission to the will of God.

1. Mark 9:28-29, Matthew 17:21

These kinds come by fasting..... Some things we don't get from God until we learn to turn our plate down. The key to victory is using this weapon properly. Anoint your head and don't appear to others that you are fasting. The kind of fast that God calls for will loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords to set the oppressed free. It will break every yoke that weigh us down. As we look into our lives, our homes, church, community and our country and see the need for this weapon, let us use it secretly that God may reward us openly.

2. Walking in Obedience

The Lord delights in our obedience. To obey is better than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22) and to heed is better than the fat of rams. When we walk in obedience, God will subdue our enemies and foes (Ps 81:8-16). This is one of those weapons that we should begin to teach our children to use at an early age. We are commanded to honor our parents and honor and obedience go hand and hand. When we fail to walk in obedience to God, we fail to honor Him. Just as we are eager to come to our children's rescue when they honor and obey us, so will God come to His children's rescue. Obey my voice that it may be well with thee (Jeremiah 8:23-24).

a. Examples of people walking in obedience:

b. Daniel walked in obedience and was delivered from the hungry lions.

c. The Three Hebrew Men walked in obedience and were delivered from the fiery furnace.

Now take a look into your personal life and recall some instances when God rescued you when your obedience was complete.

3. Walking in Humility

Humility is the greatest weapon against pride, egoism, arrogance and disrespect. If we want to be exalted by God we must humble ourselves (James 4:10). When we fail to walk in humility, we become increasingly covered with pride and soon find ourselves believing that we do not need God. Egoism and arrogance begin to set in and Satan blinds us of the presence of God around us. He even makes us feel like we don't need each other which is far from the truth. Let us humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God because He opposes the proud and give grace to the humble.

4. Praise and Thanksgiving -This weapon guards us against ingratitude, complaining, murmuring, a comparison attitude, doubt, fear and the spirit of despair. Have you ever wondered why God exhorts us to praise Him? Does He need our praises? Does he need fuzzes and pats on the back? No. Praising God is for our good. Praising brings healing (emotionally, mentally and physically). Praising helps us to mature spiritually. Praising helps us to develop good character traits. Think about it - praise and moodiness can't coexist. Praise and a negative attitude have a hard time getting along together. When we fail to use the weapon of praise and thanksgiving, we begin to focus on ourselves and the many fiery darts being shot at us. We should start our prayer time each morning with praise and let it continue through out the day.

III. Conclusion

As we save ourselves from this untoward generation by laying aside every weight and habits of sin that so easily entangle us, we must properly use our God-given weapons. While using these weapons, we must keep our focus on Jesus Christ. After all, the battle is His. When Satan comes at us like a flood let us keep a positive attitude that we are in a winning situation. We have a God on our side that we can go to any time of the day. We can do like Jesus did when he was tempted and tried- put the Word on Satan. As obedient children, fasting and walking in humility God promised to come to our rescue. Let us have a continuous praise in our heart and give Him glory. If you praise Him, He will deliver you. If we properly use these weapons, we can pity Satan for waging war against us. These are weapons of victory.