



## The Armor of God - Bible Study Book

*Priscilla Shirer*

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All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationships, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny. But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you.

The Enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. **The Armor of God**, more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory. (7 Sessions)

### **Features:**

Bible Study Book includes 6 weeks of homework that can be completed between 7 group sessions  
Includes leader helps and perforated prayer cards that can be used to develop a prayer strategy  
Leader material (guides to questions and discussion with small group)

### **Benefits:**

Equip women to get serious, specific, and strategic in their discipline of prayer  
Turn challenges and discouragement into opportunities for prayer  
Grow spiritually as you dig deeper into Scripture and expand your understanding of prayer  
Develop and implement practical, purposeful prayer strategies  
Appropriate for new or inexperienced Bible study students as well as those well-versed in Scriptures  
Leaders can be assured of a trusted teacher in every group  
Opportunity for multiple leaders or facilitators

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## **The Armor of God - Bible Study Book Details**

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## From Reader Review The Armor of God - Bible Study Book for online ebook

### Cathy says

I read this book with a group of women at my church, and enjoyed the conversation as well as the study. It's on Ephesians 6:10-19, Paul's description of the armor we need to wear in spiritual warfare.

I never can read that passage without thinking of the summer I spent sword-fighting my male cousin. We were both first-born teens, used to getting our way, and argumentative. But instead of bickering, my dad had us duel in the backyard. He taught a college-level fencing class and had brought home the foils (swords), helmets, and padded, cloth breastplates. The dueling did not always benefit us or resolve the conflict; I distinctly remember that once we dueled over the last piece of cake while our little sisters ate it! But I can still feel the weight of the helmet, the itchiness of the hot padding, and the feel of the sword in my hand. To me, these are real, concrete things, not just a story.

The situation in Paul's narrative is much more serious. Soldiers fight for their lives, and in this world, all of us will face trouble.

There were several things about Roman armor of the times that I had not known:

\* The soldier's belt was put on first, because it was a weight-bearing belt, much like a delivery driver's back bracing belt. It partly held the weight of the breastplate, and without it, the breastplate would have been too heavy on the shoulders. Likewise, truth should support us, and our acts of righteousness. The belt was also a source of a soldier's identification separating them from the citizens, and being without it was such a source of embarrassment that sometimes their commanding soldiers would have them go without it for punishment. Truth should be an identifying feature for us as well, and we should be embarrassed without it (although our Commanding Officer would never order us to go without it. He's kinder than that.)

\* I didn't realize that a Roman soldiers shoes (the gospel of peace) had cleats in the form of nails, although it doesn't surprise me. And cleats would have come in handy to hold my ground whenever my cousin tried to drive me into the creek in our duels. It wasn't one-sided; I drove him in that direction, too, on occasion, but we were matched well enough that I don't remember either one of us ever getting a dunking over it. I do remember scrambling and sliding on the bank and cleats would have helped.

\* The shield is the one part of the armor I wouldn't have any idea how to use properly from my fencing experience. We had no shields, apart from the knuckle-guards on the hilts of our own swords. I didn't realize that the type of shield mentioned as the shield of faith was the larger scutum, which was large enough not only to shield its owner, but part of another soldier as well. They were meant to be linked together in a turtle formation to protect the soldiers from flaming arrows. Likewise, our faith isn't meant to be used alone; it's meant to be linked to others' faith. Our faith can also shield and protect those around us. Yes, they need their own faith, but ours can be a refuge for them at times. I can see this with our kids.

\* I also thought it was interesting that the soldiers would dunk their shields in water so that they would actually extinguish the arrows, not just block them. I had recently read a middle ages book with my teens in which the characters did just that. Apparently, putting out the flaming arrows were more of a distraction to keep the soldiers' from noticing the real danger.

\* The sword of the spirit, the Word of God, is the Rhema, the specific Word of God, speaking into our lives. The word for sword there was not the heavy, two-handed broadsword, but the short sword of close combat, of the tricky situations and personal attacks. Probably, it would've been shorter than the French foil that I used. As I said under the topic of the shield, the only shield I had was the knuckle-guard of my own hilt. When I think of a defense, I think of parrying a blow. It amuses me to see the four most basic parries - the only ones I ever learned - used in the movies. In particular, towards the end of "The Princess Bride," Inigo Montoya, injured and expecting a death blow, uses those four parries. He's at his most pathetic and those were the only parries I ever learned. (We also laugh at fencing scenes in various movies where they clearly have no idea what they're doing.) But, the sword is an offensive weapon as well.

I liked the discussion on God's perfect righteousness and the righteousness Jesus gave us at the cross. I can be grateful for that all the day long. All my life long.

I appreciated the listing of things for which we can be grateful, (p. 111) and it made me realize that I had several new slips of paper to put into the Answered Prayer jar.

I liked the passages where Jesus called someone's faith "little," and Priscilla Shirer's comment, "He is not challenging them to focus on faith; He is telling them to focus on Him." She also said, "Your shield of faith works because it is directly connected to the faithfulness of your God."

I liked Dr Caroline Leaf's study of neuroplasticity, about how negativity changes the structure and the "real estate" of our brains.

And although it has nothing to do with this book, I will say a couple of things I learned about this equipment, having used some of it. I'm far from an expert on fencing, but I did learn a little.

The first thing I had to learn was to trust my breastplate and my helmet. I was intimidated by my cousin, and it sounded like I got a horrible beating, but I wasn't really hurt at all. I think I just spent the first part of the summer learning to just trust my equipment, and stand my ground. And God's armor is trustworthy. This is how He meant life to be lived, and more than that, He is with us in it.

My dad didn't want to train either one of us without the other. He thought that was unfair, but he did encourage me that, despite my many losses, and a man's longer reach, women make better swordsmen than men do. He wouldn't explain that, but let me figure that out on my own. To both our credit, I did, and after I learned it, and the matches were more evenly won, my dad explained it as boys tend to use more brute strength, "hack and slash," while women tend to "use more finesse," by which he meant thinking, strategy, good form. Or, as John Flanagan said, "Six inches of steel will do the job as well as three feet of it." I laughed when I read that line on sword-fighting in the fictional Brotherband series. I knew exactly what he meant. Anyone who draws his arm back to prepare for delivering a hard blow is leaving their entire chest open for a simple thrust, a move of six inches, more or less. More if you use good footwork and lunge into it.

In any case, we were more evenly matched. Whether or not I became the better fencer is ..., well, probably worth dueling over.

But I never got so cocky as to leave my armor off to duel. I can't imagine that. It would've been painful. We've got to put our armor on. We've got to use it.

Disclaimer: I am really not a violent person; I thought of French foil fencing as a sport, something to do with my dad and male cousin, in that long-ago time. I am actually almost, but not-quite, a pacifist, and violence is

one thing I don't like in books or movies. "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rules, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12)

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### **Amy says**

Great Bible study! Loved the prayer strategy cards and the Actionable Intel at the end of each day's homework.

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### **Yolanda says**

Absolutely one of the very best bible studies I have ever participated in, as well as facilitated. God is good, He is faithful, and He is right on time.

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### **A.C. Williams says**

An extraordinary Bible study that challenged me in every area of my life. I thought I knew what it meant to wear the Armor of God. I truly had no idea until I completed this study. No matter what issue you're struggling with in your life right now, this study will equip you to face it with God's power.

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### **Julie says**

This is everything you want in a Bible study - solid, convicting Biblical truth presented in powerful and engaging ways, and full of practical application that can absolutely lead to transformation.

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### **Mama says**

Love love love the accompanying videos, but there were several passages that I could not support her interpretation of Biblical texts. She has awesome, encouraging ideas, but several times it felt like her spin rather than Biblically based. Just recommend you read the referenced verses for yourself and see where the Spirit leads you for interpretation.

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### **Sarah says**

I would suggest this Bible Study to anybody who is ages 13 and up and I would DEFINITELY suggest you doing this study with your mom or daughter. The sole reason I gave this study 4 stars instead of 5 is because some questions asked in this book were a little confusing and I didn't always know how to answer all of them. This book was definitely made for older women, older than little old teenage me. It definitely

provides many spiritual lessons everybody in their lifetime needs to learn and lessons that can help us win this battle against the enemy, Satan.

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### **Dawn says**

Excellent Bible study! This is the first exposure I've had to Priscilla Shirer and I found her to be a wonderful speaker as well as an engaging writer. The lessons were in-depth enough that I felt like I was getting some real sustenance, and were always applicable to everyday life. Highly recommended.

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### **Kim says**

Excellent book. I will be re-reading & re-reading it over & over again!!

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### **Amanda says**

This bible study book was fantastic. The topic is a good one, and the way that she asks questions and infuses other bible passages to look up is very beneficial.

It had good questions for group discussion (although they weren't specific group questions); each time our group found questions from the week to discuss that were deep and allowed us to share our struggles and lives together.

Would probably do this study again as it's not something that you learn once-and-done.

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### **Dani Bruno says**

I wasn't sure whether to give this one three or four stars. She is a gifted servant of the Lord and had some amazing and useful analogies I will never forget, but I would have loved more engagement with the actual Word of God and more in depth homework.

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### **Jennifer Hale says**

If I could give this Bible study 10 stars, I would. I don't know if it's that this Bible study is the best I've ever done or that it just came at a time in my life when I most needed it... either way, it was amazing and life-changing for me. I went into it thinking that I already knew about the armor of God, but Priscilla Shirer put this in such a way that it was new and fresh, convicting, and incredibly applicable. I simply cannot rave about this study and Priscilla's teaching enough.

Please do this study. It's worth it.

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### **Polly says**

If I could give this study six stars, I would. Priscilla Shirer minces no words as she teaches on each part of God's armor in Ephesians. While there was always an interesting anecdote or analogy to help me understand her teaching, her writing, and speaking on the companion videos, were meaty and extremely efficient. Her teaching was so effective this is the first time I could walk through this part of Scripture and really teach it to someone else. I'm disappointed it's over and highly recommend!

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### **Laura Smith says**

One of my all-time favorite Bible studies! I went through this book with a group of women a few years back and just went through it again at our new church. Even a second time through it wowed, challenged, taught, and inspired me! Priscilla's teaching is knowledgeable and engaging. The book had great prompts and information. Highly recommend for all Bible-study lovers!

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### **Carrie Daws says**

The study itself was incredible, but I read it in conjunction with Dressed to Kill by Rick Renner, and that made it absolutely life-changing. I more clearly see where I was slow or even not putting on pieces of armor, where I laced pieces on too loosely and allowing my enemy to attack--and win--battles that I needlessly gave him power over me. I clearly saw the lies I easily believe, and Priscilla Shirer pointed me to the truth to combat them and bolster both my defense and offense. Rick Renner's book added in the history of the Roman armor and dug deeper into the uses of each piece that sometimes Priscilla glossed over or didn't have room to dive into, making the lesson even more profound. Overall, I highly recommend this study!

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