



What if you don't know what to pray for?

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. Romans 8:26–27 (NLT)

Put on the full armor of God
so that you can take your stand
against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11 (NIV)

Prayer of Protection

“God, send Michael the archangel to defend me in battle and be my protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. God, rebuke him in my humble prayer. And may he, the prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl throughout the earth seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.”

Want to know more about Michael the archangel? See Jude 9; Daniel 10:13,21; Daniel 12:1; Revelation 12:7.

Ephesians 6:10–18 (NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.** And **pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.**

Nearly all the armor that Roman soldiers wore was defensive gear:

- Breastplate: chest protection
- Helmet: head and face protection
- Belt: protection for the loins
- Shield: deflection of enemy arrows

Only one offensive weapon

To believers, God has given two offensive tools that the Holy Spirit will empower you to use to bring victory over Satan's attacks:

The Sword and Prayer

I. The _____

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:17 (NIV)

A Roman soldier's sword is called a _____.

- Only about 20 inches long.
- Double-edged sword.
- Used in hand-to-hand combat, both defensively and offensively.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

God's Word, by the Holy Spirit, is a powder keg of life transformation and supernatural victory.

—Pete Briscoe

Through the Holy Spirit, the Word of God is your Sword of Protection against the lies of the Evil One and a powder keg of life transformation.

2. _____ in the Spirit

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)

Christian soldiers always fight on their knees. When God says, "Charge!" you drop and pray.

What does Paul mean when he says, "pray in the Spirit?"

- Pray _____.

Can you pray any other way?

When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites! They love to stand up and pray in the houses of worship and on the street corners, so that everyone will see them . . . But when you pray, go to your room, close the door, and pray . . . Matthew 6:5–6 (TEV)

Prayer in the Spirit is a personal, intimate conversation with the One who loves you.