



United Pentecostal Church March 2017



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## Spiritual Warfare

By Flo Shaw



I remember as a little girl singing the lyrics of a song in my Sunday school class that resonates even today. "I may never march in the infantry, Ride in the cavalry, Shoot the artillery; I may never Zoom o'er the enemy, But I'm in the Lord's army." Truly, as adults, God has recruited us into His spiritual army to war in prayer for our children. In God's kingdom, there are no limits to enlist. Even youth and children themselves are candidates to join.



WNOP Kids Summit

## Soldier's Work

We live in a world full of battlefields that exist in our homes, schools, communities, and many other places where the soles of our feet may tread. It is essential we adorn ourselves with the whole armor of God and engage in spiritual warfare as a "good soldier" in the army of the Lord. This is part of a soldier's work (Ephesians 6:10-18, II Timothy 2:3-4).

## Spiritual Warfare

From a Christian perspective, spiritual warfare is the war or battle between the forces of good (God's kingdom) and the forces of evil (Satan's kingdom) in the spiritual realm. Evil spirits continually endeavor to intervene in human affairs in an effort to bring destruction to all humanity, including our precious children.

Ephesians 6:12-19 declares, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places . . . Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand . . . Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit." Spiritual warfare encompasses an arsenal of weapons in combat against the power of the adversary.

## Strategic Weaponry

II Corinthians 10:3-6 states, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God." Some strategic weaponry used in spiritual warfare include: the blood of Jesus; the name of Jesus; the Word of God; belief and faith; the Spirit of God; worship/revelation of one true God; prayer/fasting; binding/loosing; divine/angelic intervention; etc.

Prayers are descriptive of odors stored in golden vials that travel into eternity to be poured out at God's appointed time, even beyond mortality. These prayers are so powerful that they never die, but only get answered at an opportune time (Revelation 8:3-5). Like never before, it's time to put our "boots on the ground" and fight for the sake of our children, confidentially knowing, "the battle is not yours, it's the Lord's."

Note: Flo Shaw is the International Coordinator of the World Network of Prayer and a licensed minister with the United Pentecostal Church International. She is the wife of Dwayne Shaw, pastor of New Life Temple, Austin, TX.

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## What is the Heart of Prayer?

By Judi Nicholls



According to Psalm 119:105 God's Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. In God's Word, we find direction for the way we should go. Our faith should be firmly anchored in God's Word so that when we don't see our prayers answered immediately, we know that the answer is still on its way (John 15:7; I John 5:14-15).

Prayer is one of the best things we can do for our children. Prayer is powerful (Hebrews 4:12), effectual (James 5:16), and lasts for eternity (Revelation 5:8). Not only is it vital to pray for our children, but it's equally important for them to see us (their parents and role models) praying. By letting them see us seek God in prayer for our needs and the needs of others, they will learn to seek God for themselves. As they witness how God answers our prayers, they will know that the Lord will also answer their prayers as well. Acts 10:34 tells us God is no respecter of persons.

The Bible tells us in Proverbs 22:6 if we train a child in the way he should go, then when he is old he will not depart from it. From that scripture, we can be sure if we train our children to pray when they are young, when they grow up they will know to turn to God in prayer for every situation and circumstance that they face in life.

I am reminded of something that happened when my husband was principal of New Hope Christian School in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. A young student named Mark faithfully requested prayer each day for his grandfather who had a brain tumor. On the appointed day when the doctor opened Mark's grandfather, the tumor simply fell out on the operating table! It was miraculous! Mark had witnessed the power of prayer in his family's lives and knew that God was faithful to answer prayer. After praying for his grandfather, Mark witnessed for himself the power of prayer and the faithfulness of God.

Training children is time-consuming and, at times, difficult. However, the Bible encourages us in Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Note: Judi Nicholls is the wife of Raymond Nicholls and they have been missionaries for the past twenty-five years. Currently they serve as missionaries to Belarus, Poland, and Ukraine. They also serve as Area Coordinators to the Baltics and CIS (former Soviet Union).

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## Be Watchful and Vigilant

By Bethany Wilson



"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8-9).

There is a saying, "Hindsight is 20/20." Looking back on some major attacks in my life, I can see where I let my guard down. The distractions became a large part of my day and slowly my defenses fell as well. I forgot that I was a target and my adversary was walking around like a roaring lion seeking to devour me. We can be so busy for the Lord that we put our relationship with Him on the back burner. I know many of you have the exact same testimony. You get up in the morning and all is well, you go on with your day and then - boom! Where did that come from? Why did it happen? Wasn't life going great? Why my children?

Many of us can vouch that some of the trials we go through take us by surprise. But why be surprised? Are you doing the Lord's work? We must remember this world is not our home. We have a huge target on our head and are being watched to see if our guard comes down.

Scripture says we must be sober, which means to be clearheaded. Don't cloud it with doubt, negativity, and distractions. Also, it says we must be vigilant, which means to keep a careful watch for possible danger or difficulties. We are to watch and pray over our children as well. Ephesians 6:18, says, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

We must not be caught unawares. We cannot be naïve in this evil world. Our children are being attacked by wicked spirits and temptations we have never faced. Find out what they are looking at on their phones. Be the example of holiness to them. If they sense that we don't love or take holiness seriously, they will not keep it dear to their hearts either. Don't be naïve. Watch! If we are not watching them, the Bible warns there is an adversary watching them.

When my husband and I started the United Nations ministry about three years ago, the enemy tried to destroy our family at the same time. I can truly say that prayer, fasting, and others praying for us kept us alive. Even though life can be busy, it is never worth the salvation of our children. We have learned so much on our journey. We will not be caught unawares again. We are trying our best to be sober and vigilant.

Note: Bethany Wilson is the wife of Pastor Art Wilson of the International Church of Metro-Detroit. The church was started in 2000 as a Home Missions church. In 2013 they started the United Nations Ministry in Manhattan, NY. Bethany has a Bachelor's degree in Christian Counseling and is pursuing her Master's degree in Jewish studies.

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### From the Editor



Debbie Akers

#### God is doing mighty things!

God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in English, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Greek, Arabic, Farsi, Czech, Chinese, Swahili, Hungarian, Tagalog, Indonesian, Romanian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Hindi and Georgian.

We have a temporary Japanese translator; please help us pray for permanent Japanese, Serbian, and Bulgarian translators.

If you wish to receive any of the above translations please send request to [LadiesPrayerInternational@aol.com](mailto:LadiesPrayerInternational@aol.com) and we will be delighted to add you to our mailing list!

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).



## Ministries we support...

### TUPELO CHILDREN'S MANSION

Children live in an environment with opportunity to grow spiritually, physically and emotionally.

**NEW BEGINNINGS** Maternity care for birth mothers considering adoption and child placement for adoptive couples.

**HAVEN OF HOPE** A program for girls ages 13-16 with behavioral and emotional issues.

**LIGHTHOUSE RANCH** for BOYS Healing broken and hurting lives of teen boys.





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