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## STRATEGY

If you play sports on a team, the best way to win is to have a strategy. If you are on a football team, a good coach will sit with the players and draw up a strategy to play against the opponent. He will know what the other team they are competing with has done from previous games, and puts together a plan of defense and offense, based on what the team can do and what the other team has done. They will discuss who plays each position, and then during the game, will bring in their “strategic” plan to take the lead. A poor coach sends the team out without any instruction, and just lets things happen, which will lead to defeat.

As a Christian we must know that we have an opponent that knows all about us. He sends “familiar spirits” to see our daily activities and habits. He watches from the spirit realm and knows our weaknesses just like a football coach learns about the opponent. These spirits observe us and know everything about us, including some things about us that we aren’t even aware that we do.

This opponent is not in the battle just for sports. He is in it to steal, kill, and destroy. He doesn’t play by the rules, and he will do everything that he can to win. The word of God calls him Satan. He hates everything about us. He will lie to us and tell us things to entice us to sin, and then will use it against us to torment us in our minds to the point that we want to quit. Most Christians haven’t been through spiritual boot camp to know how to fight these battles.

Like a football player that is given a helmet, shoulder pads, a mouth protector, knee pads, and the right shoes, God also gives us “equipment” to win the battle. They are the armor of God, which includes a helmet, shoes, belt, sword, shield, breastplate. It is our choice to wear them. We must have a strategy to take Satan down instead of his taking us down.

When we know how he plays, we are not ignorant. We stand on the offense, warding off the spiritual darts thrown during the battle. We train our minds to listen to our coach, which is the Holy Spirit, and we take our positions to win just like a winning football team does.

The strategy from Holy Spirit will always win the battle. The key is to listen to what He has to say. In John 16:13 it says, **“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.....”** We can always count on the Holy Spirit to lead us to victory with a strategy that wins.