



sWording

*"And take...
the sword of the Spirit,
which is the Word of God."*

Ephesians
6:17

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Eternally Speaking Now

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The Lord has once again revolutionized my prayer life. This may sound familiar to you, as I've spoken this way before; but it's true! *He really has done it again.*

"Oh, the depth of the riches
both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgments
and His ways past finding out!"
Romans 11:33

God is eternal and everlasting, so there's never an end to our learning about and growing in Him. So, I invite you to strap yourself in with the 'seatbelt of truth,' and be elevated to this new space with me that I've entitled, "*sWording.*"

Brief Background

To begin, I want to clearly state that what I'm about to share with you is a result of the Body of Christ at work, in sync with the Holy Spirit. It has come forth from God moving in the lives of several people and is the product of various components, including a vision from God, hours of seeking the Lord in prayer, iron-sharpening conversations with believers, and personal experiences aligned with Scripture.

In a way, sWording is actually nothing new. It's more like what we've already known, yet forged afresh from the fire of the Lord's furnace, resulting in a timely summoning from our Father to His children-- an urgent call to take up His sword like it's a priceless piece of purified, glittering gold. To Him be all the glory.

That said, are you ready? Let's get started. Following is the sWording Prayer. It's presented in two segments: Preparation and Prayer, with each having three sections.

PREPARATION

Name the enemy

Identify the specific issue that has come against you or the person for whom you are interceding. Name it. It can be any word, as long as the name you give it describes what it is. It may be unbelief, fear, overwhelm, strife, lust, hatred, confusion, etc. You can even be more specific, defining it as: drug addiction, eating disorder, financial problems, or the exact name of a disease.

Confess & Repent

If the issue is personal sin, confess it to God. Acknowledge to Him that you have been in agreement with it, it has caused separation between you and Him, and you choose to repent-- to change your mind and intentionally turn away from it.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." *1 John 1:8-9*

"Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin." *Ezekiel 18:30*

Find Scripture

Search and find a Scripture that speaks to that issue.

For example, if it's fear you want to defeat, your verse may be 2 Timothy 1:7. *"God has not given a spirit of fear but of power, of love, and of a sound mind."*

Or, if your child is in a pattern of lying and that's what you want to come against, the verse you may choose is Proverbs 12:22. *"Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully are His delight."*

Maybe you want to pray for your family's protection against temptation. A verse for that could be 2 Thessalonians 3:3. *"But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one."*

This is easy to do. Please don't complicate it (and definitely don't skip it-- these verses will be your sword). Do a quick internet search, asking for a verse that deals with your issue, and you'll find what you need. I prefer to gather several verses for each issue, but you can freely do one, especially if you're short on time.

Then, write down what you named the issue (ie, fear, lying, temptation/evil) along with the Scripture that defeats it. Now you're all set for some sWording!

SWORDING PRAYER

Step One: Swords Up!

Family of God, it's time to get brutal. I'm talking about lopping off heads-- the heads of our enemies, like anxiety or impatience; the heads of enslaving strongholds, like impurity or alcoholism.

Do you realize the war we're in? We Christians are the ones who hold in our hands the weapon that will take down the devil-- for ourselves, our families, our friends, our acquaintances, and yes, even our enemies. Our weapon is the Word of God, and we must wield it against the spiritual forces at work in our jobs, churches, towns, nation, and world.

"For though we walk in the flesh, *we do not war according to the flesh.*
For the *weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God*
for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments
and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God..."
1 Corinthians 10:3-5

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,
but against principalities, against powers,
against the rulers of the darkness of this age,
against spiritual hosts of wickedness
in the heavenly places.*

Therefore take up the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to withstand in the evil day,
and having done all, to stand.
Ephesians 6:12-13

Ephesians 6 continues in verse 18, clearly stating that we don't arm ourselves and then just stand there. We take up the whole armor, including the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, and yes, we stand, but then we...
PRAY.

*Stand with your feet firmly fixed on the floor,
and pray out loud, with
sword brandished and
the Word of God on your tongue,
fiercely fighting for purity, truth, and righteousness.*

Use the Word like Jesus did when the devil tempted him.
May I exemplify what I mean?

Let's say you're stuck in envy. You've confessed it to the Lord, and you've looked up a few verses to battle against it. Now you raise up the sword of the Spirit, defeating envy by speaking God's Word.

Following is a sample prayer. It's just an example-- please don't feel pressured to remember every line or memorize it.

Step One: Swords Up!

(Raise the sword: Lift your arm as if to hold a sword, and begin to pray out loud.)

Envy, be gone!
For it is written
(literally swing your arm as you speak the Word),
"God is love" (1 John 4:8), and
"Love does not envy!" (1 Corinthians 13:4)

It is written *(slice your sword in the air again),*
"A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rotteness to the bones." (Proverbs 14:30)

It was because of envy that the chief priests
handed over Jesus! (Mark 15:10)
So I take no part in you anymore, envy.
(Wield the Word of God, and behead all envy!)
I choose a sound heart as life to my body,
and I refuse your rotteness to my bones.
Be gone now, in Jesus name! Amen.

Step Two: Swords Down!

Now it's time to amp it up by taking things down.

Before illustrating this next step, let's review a couple truths.

Warning: this is multi-dimensional.
It is so beyond awesome,
that it may warp your human mind.
That's okay! Please hang in there with me.
This is seriously good stuff.

a) After Jesus died on the cross, was buried, and rose again, He ascended into heaven. He is now seated at the right hand of the Father.

"...according to the working of His (the Father's)
mighty power which He worked in Christ
when He raised Him from the dead
and seated Him at His right hand
in the heavenly places,
far above all principality and power
and might and dominion,
and every name that is named,
not only in this age but also in that which is to come."
Ephesians 1:19-22

Can things get any better? God's magnificence continues in verse 23:

"And He *put all things under His feet,*
and gave Him to be *head over all things* to the church,
which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

Simply summarized, nothing and no one is above Jesus. He is seated far above *everything* that exists, and *all* things are under His feet, including all spiritual beings, levels, and authorities. *Including the very issues against which we are praying.*

But wait! It actually *does* get better...

b) If you are a believer, you are in Christ. In fact, you are crucified with Him, and it is no longer you who lives but *Christ who lives within you.* (Galatians 2:20) We are made one with Him, for we now abide in Him and He abides in us. (John 15)

"But God, who is rich in mercy,
because of His great love with which He loved us,
even when we were dead in trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ
(by grace you have been saved),
and raised us up together,
and made us sit together
in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
that in the ages to come He might show
the exceeding riches of His grace
in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." *Ephesians 2:4-7*

Are you grasping this?

As you sit there on earth reading this right now,
God, who is outside time (yet in your midst),
has also seated *you*
"together in the heavenly places."

Together with whom?

"In Christ Jesus."

And where again is Jesus,
the One in whom you are seated?

He lives within you on earth by the Holy Spirit,
and He's seated at the right hand of the Father,
in the heavenly places...

far above all

principality,

power,

might,

dominion, and

every name that is named.

I pray if you already knew this, it is somehow radically impacting you right now in a fresh way.

Suddenly what Jesus said in Luke 10:19 becomes more real (and believable) to us than ever before.

"Behold, I give you the authority
to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy,
and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Jesus spoke this to His disciples. If you are His disciple, then this is for you. In the midst of our present struggles against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places, we have authority from Jesus Himself over *all* the power of the enemy!

It's time to trample
some serpents and scorpions.

Now let's resume the Swording Prayer, picking up with "Step Two: Swords Down!"

Remember, at this point of Swording, we've just finished Step One, during which we lifted up the Word of God from the position of standing here on earth, and we beheaded the forces of evil that have come against us or the ones for whom we're praying.

Following is an illustration of Step Two, this time written for someone in despair. *I'm deliberately changing the issue in each step to give a variety of examples; but in real life, you'll pray all three steps for one issue.*

Again, this is meant to be a model-- don't let the enemy shut you down or tempt you to think this is difficult.

Step Two: Swords Down!

And now, despair, I come against you
from where I am seated in Christ Jesus.

It is written: Jesus is seated far above you!
It is written: I am in Christ, and I'm seated with Him, far above you!

So I take my sword-- His Word—
and I pierce it down from the heavenlies and into your back, despair.
You are beneath Jesus' feet and therefore under mine!
*(Consider yourself seated far above the enemy.
Lift up your arm as if holding a sword,
and plunge its piercing point down into despair's back.)
Be gone, despair!
(Jab your arm down and impale the enemy with God's Word!)*

For it is written, God gives
"the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." (Isaiah 61)
It is written, the Lord Jesus Christ is our hope.
He is the God of hope! (1 Timothy 1:1, Romans 15:13)
From where I'm seated in the heavenlies in Christ,
I thrust God's Word into your back, despair,
and I send you fleeing in Jesus' name.

Lord, I surrender to You as my Blessed Hope, and I choose to walk forward now, wearing Your garment of praise. In Your name I pray and praise You, Amen.

Step Three: Swords in the Ground!

Now that you've wielded the Word from your position on earth and sent satan fleeing from your position in the heavenlies, it's time "having done all, to stand." (Ephesians 6) People of the Lord, stand your ground, and take back God's territory that is rightfully yours.

Here is a way to pray through
Step Three: Swords in the Ground!

I take God's Word, my sword, and I stake it in the ground.

*(Clasp your hands on the sword's handle,
and pierce the ground beneath you with its tip.)*

I take back any land the enemy has stolen or has attempted to steal.

It is written, "The thief does not come except to steal,
and to kill, and to destroy."

But Jesus has "come that they may have life,
and that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

My family is the Lord's, my home is His.

My marriage, children, grandchildren,
great-grandchildren, relatives, job, finances,
health, church, ministry are all the Lord's.

(List any other lands you steward, or just focus on the ones applicable to your prayers.) I claim them for His will, His plans, and His good pleasure.

(Keep your sword poised and grounded in position.)

It is written, "Ask and it shall be given to you." (Mt.7:7)

God has given me this land to be a good steward of it.

I have what I've prayed, for I've prayed
the Word of God by faith, in Jesus' name.

(Brace your sword firmly in the soil of the terrain God has entrusted to you.)

Enemy, you have no rights here.

This is God's soil in which to sow and reap.

It is written, "Submit to God, resist the devil,
and he will flee!" (James 4:7)

This is the Word of God, and it is true.

I surrender all to You, Jesus.

In Your glorious name I pray and
give You thanks. Amen.

CHALLENGE

A friend and I have had open doors to pray this prayer for several people and their various issues over the past couple weeks. In each case, all I can say is, the atmosphere in the spiritual realm shifted. Every time. Praying Scripture like this provokes weeping, comfort, and strength, and it brings about results that only God can provide.

Pray from your position on earth, in Christ.
Pray from your position in the heavenlies, in Christ.
Pray with the sWord of God firmly established
and staked in the ground,
reclaiming the territory God has entrusted to you.

It seems our challenge is clear, dear Christians:

sWORDS Up!
sWORDS Down!
sWORDS in the Ground.
Let's Get sWORDing.

"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes,
and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."
2 Corinthians 1:20

(Scroll down for Bonus Links)

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Eternally Speaking Now

Do you need a jumpstart? Below is an encouraging video that complements this blog, featuring the invincibility we have as children of God. I pray it will boost your faith and motivate you to live passionately for Christ.

12 minute Video: Invincible Living!

The Armor of God: Eph6

Although Scripture is superior and central to effective prayer, the armor of God is more than just a sword. Read about it afresh and in its entirety in [Ephesians 6 here](#) or via the link above.

More Power-Prayers

My writing last November was about prayer from the position of the threshing floor, and it included links for additional power-packed prayers. They go hand in hand beautifully with sWording! [Read here](#), [listen here](#), or click above.