



CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

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PART 8: KNOW YOUR ENEMY

The most effective way to battle an enemy is to know their tactics, and in response, use effective counter tactics.

A. CENTRAL QUESTION

How can Christian believers recognize and counter the schemes (tactics) of the enemy?

B. DISCUSSION QUESTION

What tactics do you see Satan, the enemy, using in these verses?

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" ⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." (Gen. 3:1-5 NIV)

C. COUNTER-TACTICS OF THE CHRISTIAN (EPHESIANS 6:10-17 NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Eph. 6:10-17 NIV)



D. COUNTER-TACTICS: PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

The Full Armor of God	The Christian's Counter-Tactic
Belt of truth (6:14)	
Breastplate of righteousness (6:14)	
Fitted feet (6:15)	
Shield of faith (6:16)	
Helmet of salvation (6:17)	
Sword of the Spirit (6:17):	

E. SUMMARY

1. Acknowledge that you have a _____.
2. Your enemy uses _____.
3. God has equipped you to _____.