

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“The Shield of Faith”

“Desperate Ground – Finding God’s Strength to Stand Firm” - Pt. 11

Ephesians 6:13-16 and Selected

How to Never Yield Your Shield...

I. Continually _____ the strategies of the evil one!

“And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!” Revelation 12:9, 12

“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” 1 Peter 5:8

The “5-D” Strategy of the Evil One:

- Relentless _____ that capture my focus.
- Persistent _____ to control my emotions.
- Perceived _____ that fuels my doubts.
- Prolonged _____ that wearies my heart.
- Ultimate _____ that kills my faith.

II. Intentionally _____ the shield of faith!

“In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one.” Vs. 16a

Faith always answers the question
“Do I believe God” with _____!

"For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith." 1 John 5:4

"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

- **Real faith is living by _____ rather than eyesight!**

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

"We walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

- **Real faith is claiming the _____ not clinging to the problem!**

"And he believed the LORD, and He counted it to him as righteousness." Genesis 15:6

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

- **Real faith is driven by an _____ not a flimsy emotion!**

"The scatterer has come up against you. Man the ramparts; watch the road; dress for battle; collect your strength."

Nahum 2:1

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days." Hebrews 11:30

- **Real faith never backs down but always _____!**

"But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." Heb. 10:38 NIV