

Faith: God's Fire Extinguisher

Ephesians 6:16

Taking up the shield of faith enables me to...

1. **expect frequent attacks.**

Ephesians 6:16a | ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

2. **engage our formidable assets.**

Ephesians 6:16b | ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

Genesis 15:1b | "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.

A. To take up the shield of faith is to appropriate God's promises (Eph. 1:3-14).

Ephesians 1:13-14 | ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it,

B. To take up the shield of faith is to actualize God's power (Eph. 1:15-20).

Ephesians 1:19 | ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

C. To take up the shield of faith is to acquire God's protection (Eph. 1:13-14).

Ephesians 1:13-14 | ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it,

3. extinguish the fiery assault.

Ephesians 6:16c | ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

A. The shield of faith allows us to defy temptation (Eph. 4:20-24).

Ephesians 4:22-24 | ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

B. The shield of faith allows us to defeat manipulation (Eph. 6:11).

Ephesians 6:11 | ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

C. The shield of faith allows us to deal with persecution (Ro. 5:3-4).

Romans 5:3-4 | ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,