

Prayer Paths” as described above but of a permanently ongoing nature usually for yourself or family. It may also include a few of any of the other types of prayer paths that have been described about that are of an ongoing nature. An example may be a prayer path claiming promises of victory over sin in you life. This is done by jotting a title about the subject matter and the first text of each of these prayer paths in the front leaflet of your Bible. Then proceed to the first text, underline or highlight it and jot the second text of your prayer path in the column and continue this process until your prayer path is complete. These type of prayer paths, repeated often, are the ones that are most readily committed to memory.

(5) MIXED TOPIC PRAYER PATHS = You can scan through the topical prayer paths above or ones you have generated and jot down a text from the different categories that you are impressed to include in you “Supplication by the Sword” for that day.

(6) ALTERNATING PRAYER PATHS = To keep you prayer life vibrant and dynamic, you may elect to alternate between many prayer paths. This scenario would include a combination of all the above options. I personally found that it takes me about a week to commit a particular path of texts to memory. At that point I put it in the rotation with my other paths. By revisiting the different paths periodically it helps to solidify the texts in my memory.

Chapter Specific Prayer Paths

Each of these can be used for your entire prayer session.

Abiding in Christ Joh. 15:1-8
 The Lord’s Prayer Luk. 11:2-4
 Profiting from Trial Jam. 1:2-8
 Overcoming Prejudice Jam. 2:1-9
 The spiritual armor of God Eph. 6:11-18
 Fruits of the Spirit Gal.5:16-26
 Prayer for God’s law in the heart Ex.20:1-17
 Hannah’s prayer-God is all powerful 1 Sam. 2:1-10
 Praise to God as Creator and the basis of His throne, & His guidance Ps.89:1-18
 Repentance Ps.51
 Protection Ps.57 & Ps.91
 Seeking the Lord Ps.63
 Hannah’s prayer-God is in control 1Sam.2:1-10
 An invitation to an abundant life Isa.55
 Overview of God’s blessings in our lives Ps.103
 The prayer for the Spirit & to Comprehend the Love of Christ Eph. 3:14-20

Serving God with our spiritual gifts & Christian behavior Rom. 12

Topic Specific Prayer Paths

These sets of verses can be used together for one prayer session.

PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Put enmity between us & Satan Gen.3:15
 He will circumcise our hearts & hearts of our children to love Him Duet.30:6
 Contends for us & save our children Isa.49:25
 Spirit intercedes when we don’t know what to pray Rom.8:26, 27
 Gives Holy Spirit to who asks Luk. 11:13
 Will give H. S. to you & children Act.2:38,39
 The Lord’s Prayer Luk. 11:2-4

PRAISE FOR WHO JESUS IS TO YOU

Praise God your deliver Ps.66:8-12
 He is the Light of world Jn.8:12
 Your True Vine & Friend Jn.15:1, 2, 15
 Your Door to salvation Jn.10:7
 Your Salvation & Good Shepherd Jn.10:7-11
 Your Resurrection and Life Jn.11:25, 26
 Your Way, Truth, and Life Jn.14:6
 Your Living Bread of Life Jn.6:35,51
 Forgiver of your transgressions Isa.43:25
 Your Saviour, if you allow Isa.43:10,11

THANKING GOD FOR HIS LOVE

He is your awesome Creator Ps.33:6-9
 Your fearfully & wonderfully made by Him & always in His thoughts Ps.139:14-18
 Showed His love by sending His Son to die that you might live through Him 1Jn.4:9
 His love is new every morning & never fails, great is His faithfulness Lam.3:22-23
 Loves you with everlasting love Jer.31:3
 Nothing can separate His love Rom.8:38,39
 Behold what manner-calls you child 1Jn.3:1
 He is your Provider, merciful Judge, Redeemer, Healer, & Forgiver Ps.103:13
 He holds you in His righteous hand Isa.41:10

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Supplication by the Sword



“...take the helmet of salvation, and the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...”

Ephesians 6:17, 18.

Supplication by the Sword

By Merlin Beerman

***“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.”
Ephesians 6:12***

THE BATTLE ... It is a fact that by your earthly existence you are a forced participant in a cosmic battle of spiritual warfare. There are two powers vying for your eternal destiny. On one side is Satan, the rebellious ruler of darkness who has hijacked this world and, like a terrorist without mercy, is seeking to destroy all those created in God's image. On the other side of this great conflict is the God of love, your Creator. Though, through deception you were taken prisoner and eternally lost, He sent His Son who exchanged His life for yours and won your freedom. Now He desires for you to know Him and accept this gift of redemption—hope, peace, and eternal life—that He gladly and freely offers. To claim this gift is to escape from Satan's ruthless kingdom of dictatorship—the bondage of sin. It is to enlist as a soldier for the cause of Christ and join His kingdom—righteousness, mercy, and justice. As you choose the gift you are entering into a spiritual struggle. In this battle, God has not and will not leave you helpless. He has provided you with armor to protect you and the weapons needed so that you can be victorious.

THE CONCEPT ... In His Word God says, “... *take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...*” **Ephesians 6:17, 18.** I would like to introduce you to “Supplication by the Sword.” This is a concept which follows this Biblical advice and combines the powerful forces of the Word of God and prayer in simultaneous interaction. Using this method you follow a “prayer path” through God's Word interacting with each verse of Scripture with prayer. As you talking with Him and He is speaking to you through His Word and by the Holy Spirit. You are invited to experience the synergistic, unequivocal blessing and exponential spiritual growth that will result!

A “prayer path” is a list of Bible verses that are used as springboards to different facet of prayer—praise, intercession, contemplation, memorization, or the claiming a promise it may offer. A prayer path can be topic based, chapter specific, or random

in nature. The length of a “prayer path” can be customized to your available time or current need. There are some sample prayer paths and advice for formulating your own located at the end of this document.

NOW LET'S BEGIN! ... Choose the particular “prayer path” you wish to follow. While in prayer have your Bible open in front of you. Always begin your journey by asking for God's Spirit to fill you. Proceed through the path of verses allowing the Holy Spirit to prompt you to pray for whomever or whatever the circumstance based on the subject matter of the text. Take time to meditate on your thoughts and prayer concerning to allow God's Spirit to speak to you. Here are some suggested questions to ask yourself concerning each verse or a group of verses in your prayer path.

(1) WHAT is the purpose of the text? = Is it positive or negative? Does it offer comfort, strength, hope? Does it admonish, teach doctrine, give reproof, correction, instruction, motivation or equip for good work? Is it a promise to claim?

(2) WHOM in my life does this apply? Realize because of the affects of sin we are all in the same boat—a world plagued with sin. Every word of counsel or event in Scripture can relate in some way to us, our loved ones, friends, and acquaintances. Personalize the verse by inserting your name, or the names of those for whom you are led to pray, into the text and claim the promise, blessing, or power it offers!

(3) HOW does this apply to our lives? Is the text positive? If so ask God to help you and those for whom the Holy Spirits guides you to pray, to obey the counsel, command, or instruction. Is it negative? Does it reveal the poor choices and folly of those who have gone before us? If so ask God to help you, and those for whom you to pray, to avoid the folly and consequence of the one of whom it is written.

Often there will be a prayer path that you will want to often revisit. These may involve family or the events that are prominent in you life. I recommend you gain an added blessing by committing the verses to memory. After your interaction with each verse take one line at a time repeating and reviewing it as many times as it takes to be able to recite it without looking. You will be amazed how quickly God will help you to retain it! Each time in the future that you go down this path it will become easier and easier to remember.

It is my prayer your use of the simple concept of “Supplication by the Sword” derived from Ephesians 6:17, 18, and it will bring you to a deeper and more dynamic devotional life and strengthen your walk with Christ! After “Supplication by the Sword” changes your life, I want to challenge you to share the concept with others.

CUSTOMIZED PRAYER PATHS ... Above are a few formulated prayer paths that you may use as a springboard to try out this new concept. These are only suggestions to get you started. For the greatest blessing begin to formulate your own list of prayer paths. Keep in mind that depending on the length of your devotional time and the time you pray over each text, you may use only part of prayer trail or you may elect to combine multiple prayer trails. Some helpful resources for building your own prayer paths are any resources that topically arrange texts such as concordances, Scripture promise compilations, or you may use a computer software that allows searching by words or phrases. Here are some ideas for formulating different types of your own prayer paths:

(1) TOPICAL PRAYER PATHS = Pick a practical subject such as praise to God, wisdom, finances, faith, affliction, decision making, and the list is without end. This can be regarding someone or something in particular that may be of current importance in your life.

(2) RANDOM PRAYER PATHS = Another applications is to pray using “random prayer paths.” To do this you will need to write down many texts on slips of paper or small pieces of card stock and put them in a container. You can then proceed down your prayer path by drawing from the container and basing the context of your prayer on the subject matter of the texts you have drawn.

(3) TEMPORARY PERSONAL PRAYER PATHS = “Personal Prayer Paths” are a single text or group of texts that you would pray a prayer of an temporary nature for yourself, friends, family or whomever the Lord puts on your heart. These may involve claiming promises for physical needs, spiritual needs, protection, faith, ect... for a current but likely transitory need. This would likely be the claiming of a promise of a particular text for a particular individual on a repeated but not likely permanent basis.

(4) PERMANENT PERSONAL PRAYER PATHS = “Personal Permanent Prayer Paths” are “Personal