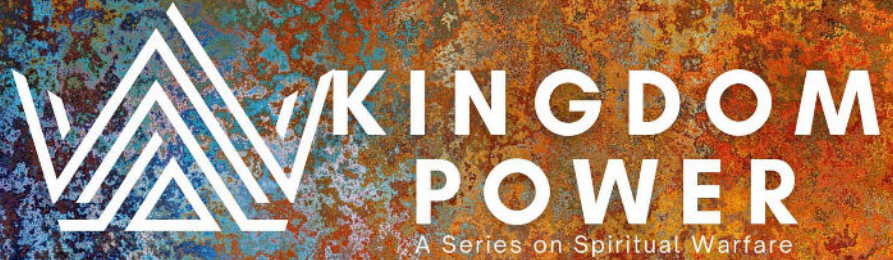




# Midweek Study

Dr. Josh Franklin • Senior Pastor



## The Power of the Spoken Word

**Ephesians 6:17 – “Take... the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word (gk.-“spoken Word”) of God.”**

Greek word for sword is not the long sword, but the dagger, when your enemy was up close.

### 1. Do you understand the Devil’s weapon of choice?

2 Corinthians 2:11 - lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

John 8:44 - You are of your father the devil... **When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.**

**“I want to rip the mask off the one who tells us those lies. Satan poses as an “angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14). He promises happiness and pretends to have our best interests at heart. But he is a deceiver and a destroyer; he is determined to dethrone God by getting us to side with him against God.” (Nancy Demoss, Lies Women Believe, pg. 20)**

**“Satan promises the best, but pays with the worst; he promises honor, and pays with disgrace; he promises pleasure, and pays with pain; he promises profit, and pays with loss; he promises life, and pays with death.” (Thomas Brooks)**

“Every area of bondage in our lives can be traced back to a lie. Behind every self-defeating behavior is a lie that I am believing. I’m accepting something that just is not true:

- Something about myself that isn’t true.
- Something about God that isn’t true.
- Something about success or failure that isn’t true.
- Something about my past, my present, my future that isn’t true.
- Something about love and relationships that isn’t true.” (Rick Warren)

### 2. Do you know how to use your weapon?

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (KJV)** <sup>3</sup>For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: <sup>4</sup>(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) <sup>5</sup>Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

I must rely always on the TRUTH of the unchanging Word of God. **3 John 1:4** - I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God *is* quick [*logos*], and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword,

John 6:63 (KJV) It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

Luke 1:37 (KJV) For with God nothing shall be impossible.

*Amplified* – “no word from God (Greek – Rhema) shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.”

*Wuest* – “For in the presence of God, no word shall be impossible.”

NIV, NLT – “No Word...”

NASB, NKJV, ESV – “Nothing is impossible!”

### Three Greek Words for “Word of God”

**Grphe** – BOOK - Word of God in written form (Scripture)

**Logos** – MESSAGE - The Word of God given (**John 1**)

**Rhema** – SPEECH - The Word of God spoken or declared. (**Romans 10:17**)

The Rhema is the VOICE of the MESSAGE that comes from the BOOK.

The Grphe gives you the Logos, but it is the Rhema that uses the sword.

**“What does the word “rhema” mean? It means an utterance. It means a spoken word. We could call it a word from the Word. You take that Bible – that’s the logos; and as you’re reading, the Bible begins to speak to you out of the Word of God. You get a rhema from the logos. You get an utterance from God, and God speaks to you, and you hear in your heart.” (Adrian Rogers)**

Example of Jesus from **Matthew 4:1-11**:

Lie #1 - God’s PROVISION Can Be Questioned. (4:1-4)

Lie #2 - God’s PROTECTION Can Be Tested. (4:5-7)

Lie #3 - God’s PURPOSE Can Be Compromised. (4:8-11)

### **Satan’s Lies vs. God’s Truth**

1. You’re not saved! (See **John 1:12; John 10:28; 1 John 5:13**)
2. The Bible has errors, and it’s not reliable. It’s only the word of man, not God. (See **2 Timothy 3:16**)
3. God has given up on you! (See **Philippians 1:6**)
4. Your past is too bad. You can’t overcome it. (See **Philippians 3:13-14**)
5. There’s more pleasure in sin than in following God. (See **Psalms 16:11**)
6. It’s my body and I can do with it what I want. (See **1 Corinthians 6:18-20**)
7. It doesn’t pay to live for God. (See **Psalms 73:13-26**)
8. God won’t hear your prayer! (See **1 John 5:14**)
9. You’d be happy if only you had \_\_\_\_\_. (See **Philippians 4:11-13**)
10. You are not needed! (See **1 Corinthians 12:22-23**)
11. No one will ever find out! (See **Numbers 32:23**)
12. Sex is OK if you love each other. God wants you happy. (See **Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 6:18**)
13. Looking at a few pornographic images won’t affect me. (See **Proverbs 6:25-28; Psalm 101:3; Job 31:1**)
14. It’s okay to take revenge: he/she deserves it! (See **Romans 12:19**)
15. You have a right to be angry. You were hurt. You don’t need to forgive. (See **Ephesians 4:32**)
16. God doesn’t care about you! (See **1 Peter 5:7**)
17. It doesn’t pay to stay in the battle! (See **Galatians 6:9**)
18. You’re not worthy! (See **Hebrews 4:16; Luke 15:21-24** – The ending of the Prodigal Son story)
19. You will never have victory over this sin. (See **Philippians 1:6**)