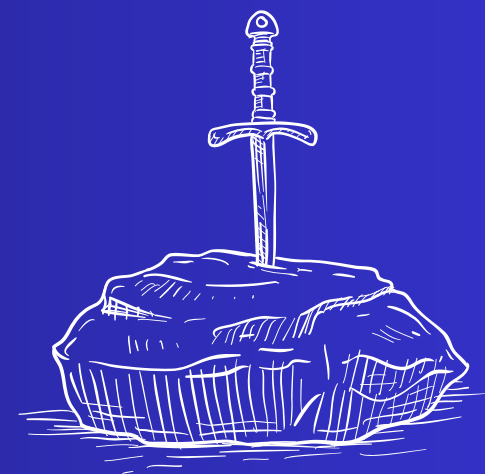


Wielding the Sword of the Spirit



**WHAT DOES GOD
SAY ABOUT HIS
WORD?**



STANDS FOREVER

“The grass withers, the
flower fades,
But the word of our God
stands forever.”

Isaiah 40:8



FIRE & HAMMER



“Is not My word like a fire?”
says the Lord,
“And like a hammer that
breaks the rock in pieces?”
Jeremiah 23:29

TO BE SPOKEN



Again He said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.”

Ezekiel 37:4–5

WILL NOT RETURN VOID



So shall My word be that goes forth from My
mouth; It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please, And it
shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11



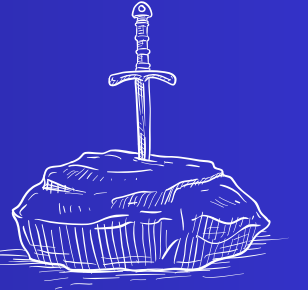
SPIRIT & LIFE

It is the Spirit who gives life;
the flesh profits nothing.
The words that I speak to
you are spirit, and they are
life.

John 6:63



POWER

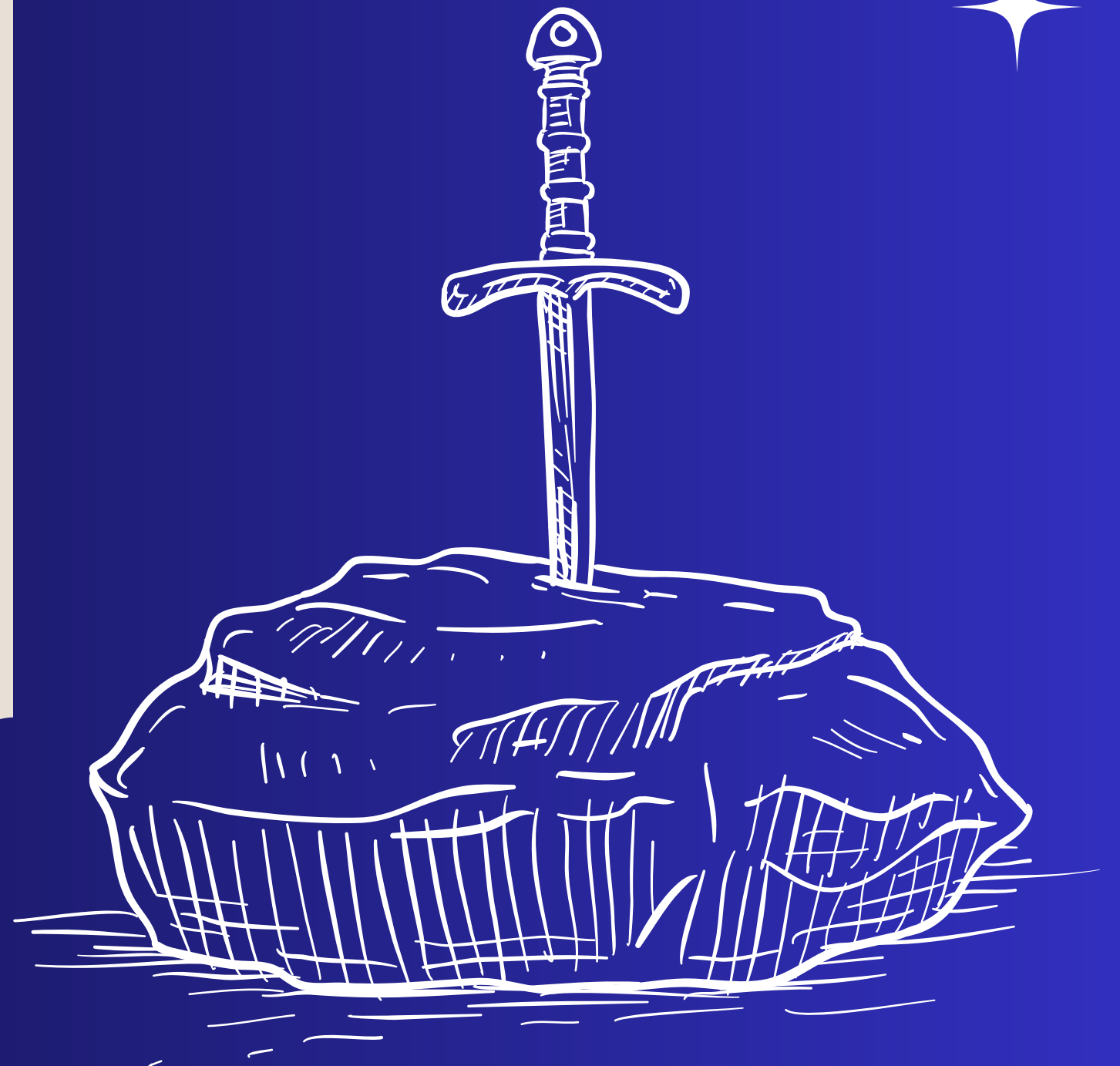


Death and life are in the
power of the tongue,
And those who love it will
eat its fruit.

Proverbs 18:21



**HOW DID
JESUS USE
THE WORD?**





IT IS WRITTEN

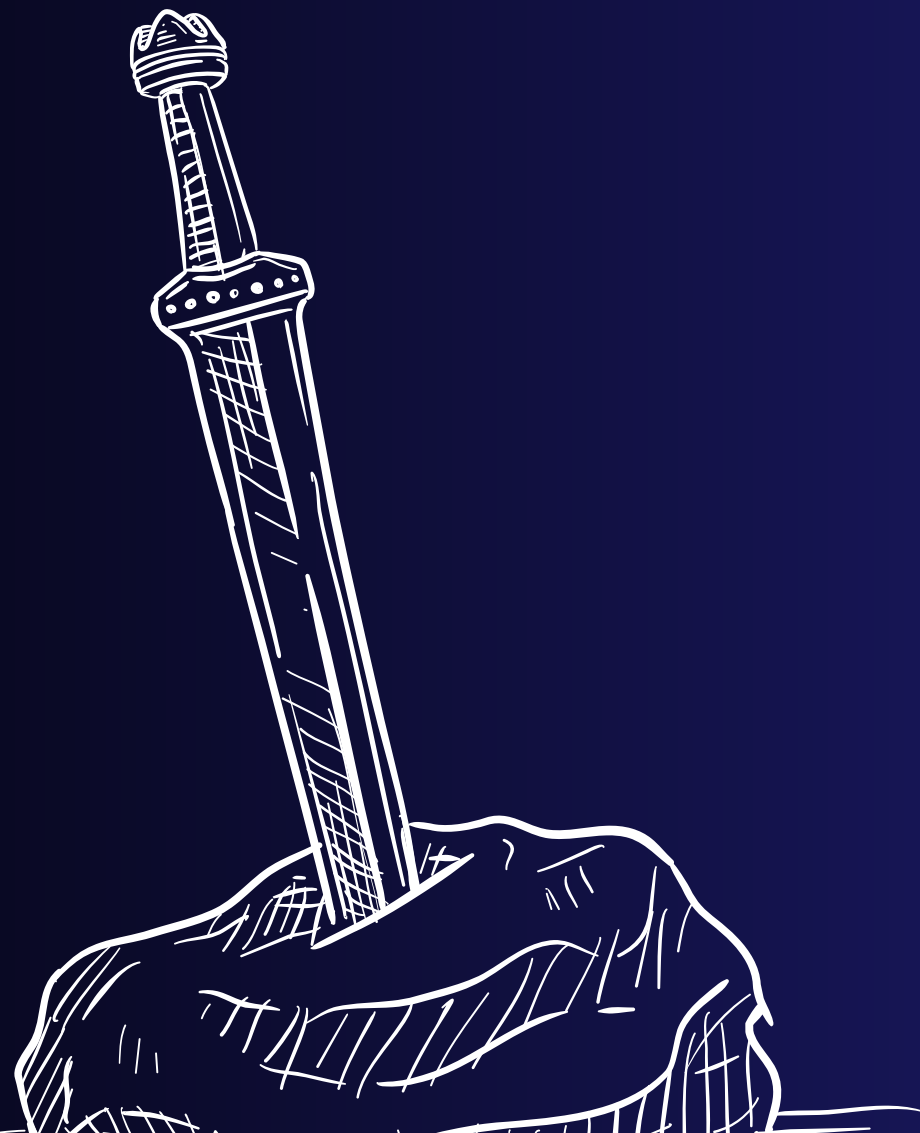
Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’” Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’” Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’”

”Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Matthew 4:1-11

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT



And 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, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

Ephesians 6:17-19



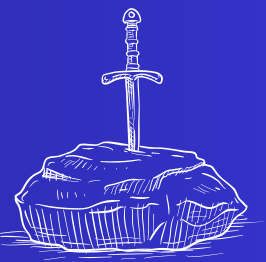
THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

“The word for ‘sword’ in Ephesians 6:17 comes from the Greek word macharia. The machaira was approximately 19 to 22 inches long with a very sharp blade. It was relatively light, easy to carry, and used for close-range thrusting...It was designed to inflict a mortal wound on an enemy or an aggressor...It was an exceptional brutal weapon. Both sides of its blade were razor sharp, making the sword extremely dangerous when used in the hands of a well-trained soldier. It was a weapon of murder. This is the sword Paul had in mind when he wrote about spiritual armor in Ephesians 6:17.”

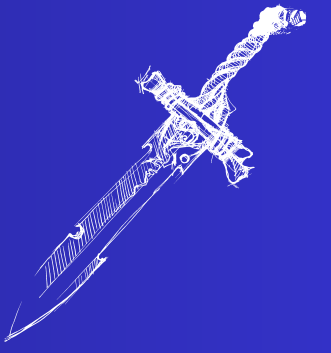
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Photo cred Koine Foundation



THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT



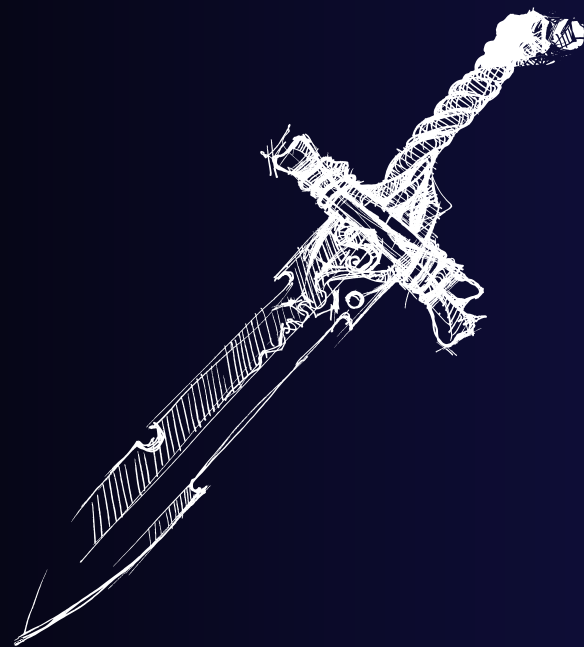
For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

“Because the blade of this sword of this special sword was sharpened on both sides, it made deeper gashes and wounds...If the soldier wrenched the blade just right inside his opponent’s stomach, it would pull the man’s entrails out of his body when the sword was withdrawn...One sharpened edge of this sword came into being when the Word of God initially proceed from the mouth of God. The second edge of this sword is added when the Word of God proceeds out of your mouth! This is the reason the original text calls the Word of God a ‘two-mouth sword’.”

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TAKING THOUGHTS CAPTIVE



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
2 Corinthians 10:3-5

HOW TO TAKE THOUGHTS CAPTIVE

**When a demonic thought attacks your mind,
immediately deal with it!**

Step 1: Speak out loud “I bind and rebuke that thought” or “I take that thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.”

Step 2: Speak a verse from the Word of God that contradicts that thought. Ex: “I have the mind of Christ.”

HOW TO CAST DOWN DEMONIC IMAGES

**When a demonic image attacks your mind,
immediately deal with it!**

Step 1: Speak out loud “I cast that image down in Jesus’ name” or “I take that image captive and make it obedient to Christ.”

Step 2: Declare - “I have the mind of Christ.”



When a demonic thought is
not confronted with God's
truth, it can grow over time
into a spiritual stronghold.
Do not be passive!



Stronghold = Ochyrōma (Greek)

- a castle, stronghold, fortress, fastness
- anything on which one relies
- of the arguments and reasonings by which a disputant endeavours to fortify his opinion and defend it against his opponent



Photo cred: TripSavvy

Demons can live in strongholds and have legal rights to you through the lies that you believe. Blow up the demon's home by using the Word of God.



HOW TO DESTROY A DEMONIC STRONGHOLD

By declaring the Word of God repeatedly with your mouth—the Sword of the Spirit—you tear down the enemy's stronghold one brick at a time until it is completely dismantled.

HOW TO DESTROY A DEMONIC STRONGHOLD

Step 1: Identify the lie you are believing.

Step 2: Declare a verse that contradicts the lie.

Be consistent!

OVERCOMING FEARS & PHOBIAS

Step 1: Identify the lie you are believing.

Step 2: Declare a verse that contradicts the lie.

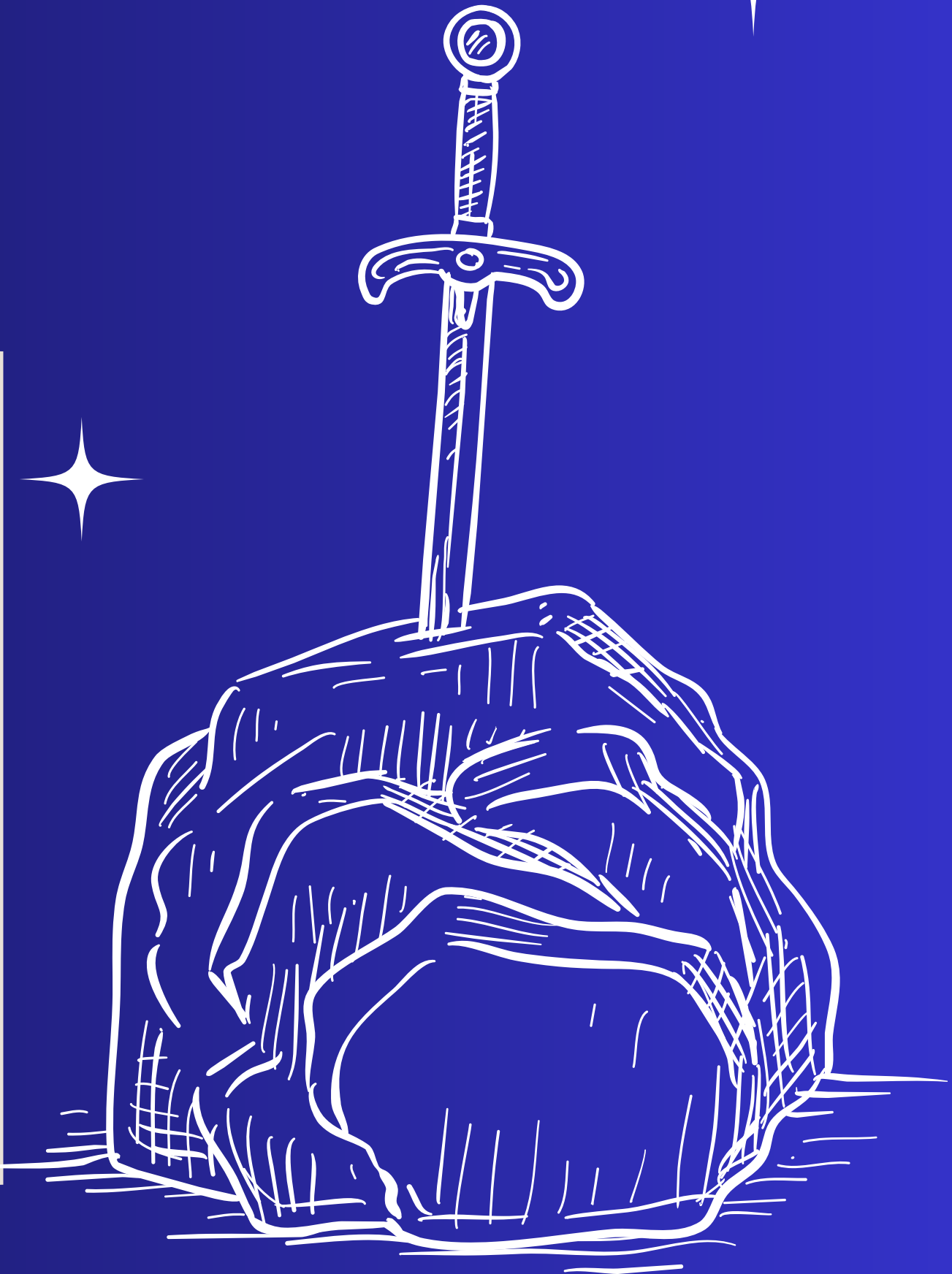
Step 3: Move physically toward what you are afraid of while declaring the verse. Avoiding the very thing that causes you fear only strengthens its hold over you.

Step 4: Decide to trust God's Word and His faithfulness over the feelings you may experience in your body.

GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS

My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings.
Do not let them depart from your eyes;
Keep them in the midst of your heart;
For they are life to those who find them,
And health to all their flesh.

Proverbs 4:20-22



PRACTICAL APPLICATION

TARGETED APPROACH

- Write the verses in a notebook. Then, choose a consistent time to declare it aloud — such as three times each day or by setting aside 30 minutes or an hour daily.



The Word is going into your eye gates, ear gates, and your mind - eventually it will become rooted in your heart.

JOURNAL SWORD DRILL EXAMPLE

EX: DELIVERANCE REVOLUTION WARFARE CHALLENGE

I will not lose control of myself
b/c it is written: For God has
not given us a spirit of fear but
of power, and of love, and of ~~good~~
~~sound mind~~ self control.

The enemy cannot overtake me
b/c it is written: Behold I
give you the authority to trample
on serpents and scorpions
and over all the power of the
enemy and nothing shall by
any means hurt you.

I can breathe b/c it is written:
the breath of the Almighty
gives me life.

I can walk anywhere b/c it
is written: they shall walk
and not faint.

I can _____ because it is written
(insert verse).

I will _____ because it is written
(insert verse).

I will not _____ because it is
written (insert verse).

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

TARGETED APPROACH

- Record yourself speaking verses on your phone so you can listen to and declare God's Word wherever you go.



**The Word is going into your ear gates and
your mind and eventually will become
rooted in your heart.**

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

ALL-INCLUSIVE APPROACH



- Consistently fill your mind with the Word of God.

Ex. Deliverance Revolution Bible Challenge

“By meditating on God’s Word, you allow the Word to do its marvelous work in you...When God’s Word begins to work inside of you, it cuts through the muck and mire of your mind and emotions and goes straight to the heart of the matter. In other words, it divides between soul and spirit to discern your innermost thoughts, attitudes, desires, and motives.”

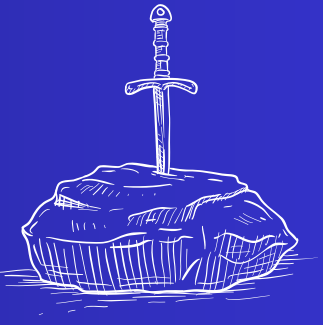
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PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Be intensive and consistent - when you notice the positive results, switch to maintaince mode. The enemy may try to test you and insert the lie and/or feeling every so often. Do not take the bait - don't agree with it! Do not get frustrated or discouraged. Do not word curse yourself saying "it didn't work." You have to maintain the ground you have gained.

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." - James 4:7

TRANSFORMATION



And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:2

METAMORPHOO is the root of the English term metamorphosis

Do you want to be transformed?
The biblical prescription for this
is mind renewal. You must read
the Word, declare the Word,
and live the Word.

TIPS



- Consistency and intensity.
- Treat it like you are in training.
- Declare the verses during peace time - depositing it in your spirit for future use.
- Continue deliverance (if there is a voice, it is a spirit).
- Continue to build up your faith ("So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17)
- Remember what He has already brought you through.

SCRIPTURE FIRST AID

Mental torment ... We have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16)

Fear ... For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7)

Panic attack ... The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life. (Job 33:4)

Depression ... The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. (Isaiah 61:3)

Emotional pain ... He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. (Psalm 147:3)

Overwhelmed ... God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. (Psalm 46:1)

Suicidal thoughts ... I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. (Psalm 118:17)