

Veterans ... We Give Thanks!

By Deacon Brian Myrick

November 10, 2021

Scripture for Mediation

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Ephesians 6:11-12

30 Day Gratitude Journal:

Write about a movie that you are thankful for.

30 Day Gratitude Challenge:

Send a card to a veteran.

Prayer Concentration:

Pray for all the branches of our military.

Prayer of Gratitude

Lord, we thank You placing people in our lives who serve as priests, providers and to protectors of our families. In that same spirit of thanksgiving, we thank You for those who serve to protect our nation and nations across the globe. As they have served us, let them be served by your peace, providence and protection. In Jesus Name we pray, amen.

Observation

As we journey through life, we make several commitments. Some of us were baptized at an early age. As we spiritually matured, we realized the importance of our covenant and relationship with God. We do all that we can to maintain and flourish our devotion to the Lord.

As we grow older, we pledge our undying love to our spouse before God, family and friends. We are committed to our mate with God as the foundation of this relationship. Others took an oath to protect our nation from enemies foreign and domestic. This pledge is taken with the uncertainty of leadership throughout the world and the possibility of mortal combat.

I can personally check the box on all three of these promises. I am grateful for my brief service in the U.S. Army and appreciate the Veterans who gave themselves, even their lives for our freedom.

Two scriptures that have encouraged and strengthen me are:

- Have not I commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed for the Lord your God is with you. (Joshua 1:9) This scripture resonated within me during the installation service of our Pastor, Dr. Kelvin E. Turner.
- God is our refuge and strength, a ever-present help in time of trouble. (Psalm 46:1) Early in life I was taught that God is the source of all good things. He created us and He sustains us. For that I am truly grateful.

I am thankful for our Veterans, our forgotten heroes. May God forever bless and keep them.

Questions to Ponder

I.	Have you enlisted into God's army? How prepared are you for the spiritual battle that is being waged around you? Are you experiencing victory or defeat? How does the Scripture, "the battle is not yours, it's the lord's apply to your situation?
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