

When We Use the Word of God to Hurt People

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart” (Heb. 4:12, NIV).

Our God has entrusted us with a great treasure –the living sword–“the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God” (Eph. 6:17, NLT). This is a powerful weapon that should be wielded in a manner that brings honor to our King.

Unfortunately, too often this weapon is mishandled. Many have used the Word to serve themselves rather than advance God’s kingdom, turning the Word of God into a legalistic document that regulates behavior and wounds the soul. The law executed without the heart of His Spirit brings death.

“For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life” (2 Cor. 3:6, NIV).

Beloved, we must use wisdom when wielding the sword of God’s Word. Wisdom empowers the sons and daughters of God to properly use the sword of God’s Word. How do we receive this wisdom? All we have to do is ask.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you” (James 1:5).

God wants to give us wisdom so that we can partner with Him to establish His plan and purpose on the earth.

Where there is oppression and fear, we can overcome by the power of the sword, bringing forth life and justice for those who are oppressed. Carrying out His decree of everlasting

love, we can restore that which has been lost. We have the great privilege of bringing honor to the King by the way we administer His Word!

How have you been wielding the sword of God's Word? Are you using divine wisdom to advance His kingdom? We can call upon His name for the strength and wisdom it takes to honor His name with the sword of the Word. Pray:

Heavenly Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus, thanking You for both the honor and privilege of wielding Your sword. I want to bring Your favor to every life I touch. I want to release the splendor of heaven here on earth. Now raise and empower me to wield the sword of Your Word with wisdom, bringing forth life and justice, in Jesus' name, amen.

*Adapted from Fight Like a Girl (Faith Words, 2006) by **Lisa Bevere.***