1) <u>Weakness</u>

- a) 2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ...
- b) 2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency ...
- c) 1 Corinthians 2:5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

2) <u>Weapons</u>

- a) 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ³We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. ^{4a}We use **God's mighty weapons**, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.
- b) Romans 13:12

The night is nearly over; the day has drawn near. So let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the <u>armor of light</u>.

c) Ephesians 6:11

Put on the <u>full armor of God</u>, so that you can make your stand against the devil's schemes.

- d) 1 Samuel 17:45-50 Then said David to the Philistine, You come to me with a **sword**, and ...
- e) Ephesians 6:10-18

i) NLT - The Whole Armor of God

(1) ¹⁰A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on **all of God's armor** so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹²For we^c are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.¹³Therefore, put on **every piece of God's armor** so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.^d ¹⁶In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil.^e ¹⁷Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times

and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. f

ii) Berean Study bible - The Armor of God

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can make your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.¹³Therefore take up the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you will be able to stand your ground, and having done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth fastened around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness arrayed, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.** ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times, with every kind of prayer and petition. To this end, stay alert with all perseverance in your prayers for all the saints.

- f) HIGHLIGHT -- <u>Sword of the Spirit</u> which is the Word of God)
 - i) Rhema! (concordance notes from biblehub.com)
 - ii) Strong's Concordance

rhéma: a word, by impl. a matter

Phonetic Spelling: (hray'-mah)
Short Definition: a thing spoken
Definition: a thing spoken, (a) a word or saying of any kind, as command, report, promise, (b) a thing, matter, business.

iii) HELPS Word-studies

4487 *rhḗma* (from <u>4483</u> */rhéō*, "to speak") - <u>a spoken word, made "by the living</u> <u>voice"</u> (J. Thayer). <u>4487</u> */rhḗma* ("spoken-word") is commonly used in the NT (and in *LXX*) for the Lord speaking His dynamic, living word in a believer to inbirth faith ("His inwrought persuasion").

Ro 10:17: "So faith proceeds from (spiritual) hearing; moreover this hearing (is consummated) through a *rhēma-word* (<u>4487</u>/*rhḗma*) from Christ" (Gk text).

[See also Gal 3:2,5 which refers to "the hearing of faith" (Gk text) - i.e. a **spiritual** hearing that goes with the divine inbirthing of faith.]

iv) Thayer's Greek Lexicon

STRONGS NT 4487: ὀῆμα

ἀῆμα, ῥήματος, τὸ (from P ʾ AΩ, perfect passive ἑἰρημαι),
from Theognis, Herodotus, Pindar down; the Sept. chiefly for דָבָר; also
for הַמָּרָ, מָלָה, פָּה, אמֶר, etc.; properly, that which is or has been uttered by the
living voice, thing spoken, word (cf. ἕπος, also λόγος, l.; i. e. any sound
produced by the voice and having a definite meaning: Matthew
27:14; ῥῆμα γλώσσης, Sir. 4:24; φωνήῥημάτων, a sound of words, Hebrews
12:19; ῥήματα ἄρρητα (unspeakable words), 2 Corinthians 12:4.

g) Jeremiah 23:29

Is not My word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that smashes a rock?"

3) <u>Warfare</u>

- a) God's strength/might not our own (can have confidence/faith-Word)
- b) God fights for us
- c) 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
 - i) ³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴(For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but **mighty through God** to the pulling down of strong holds;) ⁵Casting 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; <u>King James</u>
 - ii) ...³For though we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. ⁴The weapons of our warfare are not the weapons of the world. Instead, they have **divine power** to demolish strongholds. ⁵We tear down arguments, and every presumption set up against the knowledge of God; and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.... <u>Berean Study Bible King James</u>
 - iii) ³We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. ^{4a}We use **God's mighty** weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. <u>New Living Translation</u>

- d) Joshua 23: 9-11 ²"For **the LORD has driven out** great and powerful nations for you, and no one has yet been able to defeat you. ¹⁰Each one of you will put to flight a thousand of the enemy, **for the LORD your God fights for you**, just as he has promised. ¹¹So be very careful to love the LORD your God.
- e) David vs Goliath confidence in God for the victory in battle, not his own strength/ stature 1 Sam 17-26, 32, 37, 45-47 (or stay hiding like the rest 1 Sam 17:24)

4) <u>Winning</u>

- a) Yoke illustration double yoke, younger ox coupled with young ox. Teach how to go, when to go, etc
- b) Jesus followed the Father...did what He saw His Father John 5:19-21

We follow Jesus...do what we see Jesus did John 14:12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father

5) <u>Wrap up:</u> We do not fight in our weakness. We use the weapons God gave us for warfare to walk in the win given to us through Christ.