Welcome to Heart-to-Heart!
Armor Up!
Part 1: Dressing for Life’s Battles
“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 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. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.”

Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV 1984)
We will be strong in the Lord more readily when we embrace three Biblical truths:

A. *Life is a battleground, not a playground.*
   I John 3:8

B. *Armor is available for the battles.*
   Ephesians 6:14-18

C. *Authority in Jesus Christ must be exercised if we want victory.*
   John 14:12
“Stand therefore [hold your ground], having tightened the belt of truth around your loins …”

Ephesians 6:14 (AMP)
BELT OF TRUTH – truth **holds our armor in place**
“As He said these things, many believed in Him [trusted, relied on, and adhered to Him]. So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples. And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.”

“truth” in the Greek means **nothing hidden**
“Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.”

Psalm 51:6 (NIV 1984)
Carol’s God-Story
If we are going to be strong in the Lord, we must live with the following convictions that lead to our words and actions:

• Life is a battleground, not a playground!
• Armor is available for the battles!
• Authority in Jesus Christ must be exercised if we want victory!
Behold, I give unto you power (___authority___) to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power (___ability___) of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Luke 10:19 (KJV)
“Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you.”

Greek "adikeo" is harm: to act unjustly, wickedly, to sin
"To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives."

Revelation 2:12,13

"… the prince of the power of the air …" Ephesians 2:2
“… that power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church…”

Ephesians 1:19-22 (NIV 1984)
What does it look like to live my life, and face my battles with Biblical power?
I John 5:7 (AMP) "So there are three witnesses in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit and these three are One."
• Obey God the Father
• Submit to Jesus the Son
• Have a relationship with the Holy Spirit