

## The Sword Without the Spirit

by Jelani Greenidge, p. 43

**The armor of God is not a weapon of war but serves to preserve peace.**

1. According to the article, what is the intended purpose of the sword of the Spirit? In what practical ways can Christians use the “sword”?
2. Not many people use swords anymore, either for sport or for warfare. How can a biblical illustration about swords still apply to us today?
3. Jelani Greenidge says we can “cause collateral damage when we try to use the Bible to win arguments.” What examples can you give to support this statement?
4. We often think of ways that others misuse the word of God as a weapon. In what ways—obvious, accidental, or subtle—do you personally tend to use verses from the Bible as weapons rather than to preserve peace and unity?
5. How can you best discern the leading of the Spirit when you are in a heated discussion?