



# WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN MARTIAL ARTIST

*Courtesy: Christian Martial Arts Network*

Christian martial artists are committed to developing a set of ideals in their lives. They are loyal to these ideals in the same way that Samurai were to the Code of Bushido and Medieval Knights were to the Code of Chivalry.

## **Personally Accepting Salvation and Eternal Life**

Christian martial artists personally accept salvation and eternal life. Because of sin, people were separated and cut off from God; the only way back to Him and eternal life is through Christ. Jesus Christ is the only truth, way, and life; He is the only true Master who ever walked earth.

## **Developing Physical-Mental-Spiritual Love for God**

Christian martial artists love God with their bodies, minds, and souls. Like a soldier physically, mentally, and spiritually prepares to protect a nation, and her freedoms and beliefs, a Christian martial artist physically, mentally, and spiritually prepares to love God and do His will on earth.

## **Loving One's Neighbors**

Christian martial artists love their neighbors as themselves. While the focus is on our neighbors, it is important to realize that we cannot love our neighbors if we do not love ourselves (body, mind, and soul). When we love ourselves, we are whole; when we do not love ourselves, we are dysfunctional, unable to love others as God intended.

## **Producing the Fruit of the Spirit**

Christian martial artists produce the Fruit of the Spirit. The Fruit of the Spirit is God's expression of intimacy and love in our lives and relationships. When the Holy Spirit is flowing freely within us, we naturally produce Fruit. When the Holy Spirit is blocked because of selfish, ego-driven ambition, God's expression of intimacy and love is cut-off in our lives.

## **Putting on the Full Armor of God**

Christian martial artists put on the full armor of God. The Full Armor of God is God's protection over our lives when we are dealing with temptation, the devil, and the evil forces of the world. Christian martial artists train to be militant soldiers in God's army, learning effective techniques, strategies, and tactics to overcome all things contrary to God and His ways.

## **Becoming a Great Warrior**

Christian martial artists become great warriors. God calls us to protect ourselves and others from threat and harm. It is better to avoid a single conflict than to win 1000 battles; in other words, force is only allowed when absolutely crucial. Christian martial artists are committed to protect and defend the souls of all people by bringing them to their one and only savior, Jesus Christ.

## **Being A Child of God**

Christian martial artists are ALWAYS students and NEVER masters; black belt is not the end of a Christian walk, it is a new beginning. It is a transitioning privilege to the level of teacher, without losing the mind-set of student. Even though a child of God becomes an adult on earth, and inherits a new set of duties, he/she never ceases to be a child of God.

## **Undertaking the Great Commission**

Christian martial artists are God's helpers. They go to all the corners of the earth and help Him bring the lost sheep home. They do what they can to help people come to know Jesus Christ.

## **The Christian Black Belt**

Christian black belts are equipped to bring all of the above ideals together and teach the Gospel through a Christian martial arts ministry. They are disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and work for God, by using their martial arts talents and every other gift that the Lord has bestowed them with.



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### **Christian Martial Arts Pledge**

Christian martial artists pledge allegiance to the cross of their Savior in much the same way that nationals pledge allegiance to the flag of their country and soldiers pledge allegiance to defend and protect their country. It is a great honor to be a Christian martial artist, but a great responsibility also.

## **CHRISTIAN MARTIAL ARTS PLEDGE**

**I pledge allegiance to the cross  
of my Lord, Jesus Christ,  
and to the love  
for which it stands ...  
one Savior, everlasting,  
indivisible  
with mercy and grace  
for all.**

**~Amen**