

We Are God's Family
We Partner with Jesus to Save Lives
Ephesians 6:18-24

We Fight for Lives Along-side of Jesus

- *Without understanding life as Jesus has taught, most people are unaware of what lies ahead and threatens life both now and after death. Ephesians 6:12*
- *We know the "truth" about the future if we have learned from Jesus. We are equipped with the "Armor of God" to fight for the lives of people wherever we go.*

***Life for most people is like driving into a fog
at 80 miles an hour without knowing what is coming.***

What lies on the road ahead? Jesus teaches us the truth!

We are Equipped with Armor

- 1) **Our Loins:** We know the truth about the present and the future!
John 8:32-33
- 2) **Our Heart:** We know what people need and love them enough to pursue them and love them.
Matthew 6:33
- 3) **Our Feet:** We know what Jesus did for us and are always prepared to tell people about their need to believe in Him.
Matthew 28:18-20
- 4) **The Shield:** Because of our faith in Jesus, we can rise above self-doubt and deceptive thoughts.
II Corinthians 10:3-5
- 5) **The Helmet of Salvation-** We are fully aware of our new identity "in Christ" and authority as children of God. **Ephesians 1:3-14**
- 6) **The Sword of the Spirit (The Word of God)-** We know scripture and Jesus' so well we can quote them when tempted.
Matthew 4:1-11

We Need Regular Communion with God

1. **We pray all the time with concern for the Holy Spirit's ministry in our lives and the lives of others. (Eph. 6:18a)**

John 14:26; 15:26-27... "Praying in the Spirit"

"In the Spirit" involves more concern with what the Spirit is seeking to do in us and the world than with personal needs associated with our own desires. It is an alignment of our heart with the heart of our Heavenly Father and Jesus."

2. **We pray for needs of all children of God (saints) so that they will grow strong in their faith and understand God's will in all circumstances. (Eph. 6:18b)**

Prayer (proseuche) defines the entire range of communication with God... I love you... Thankyou... I am sorry...

Petition (deesis) involves a sense of urgency and request for help.

3. **We pray that everyone will understand the miracle of what God has done in the church as composed of His children and the family in whom He lives. (Eph. 6:19)**

"**Mystery of the gospel**" How can God really change the human heart and equip a family to honor Him in this world?

Eph. 3:8-12 Beings in the spiritual realm are watching to see.

Eph. 2:19-22 The church is a "new creation."

We Are Building Jesus' Kingdom through the Church

- ***We have an awesome privilege entrusted to us by God to grow a healthy church on behalf of Jesus Christ.***
(Our Marching Orders: John 13:34-35; 17:20-24)
- ***We do not always see how God is working, but we know the church it is the focus of His Spirit. (Eph. 4:1-6)***

"Life Groups" start TODAY: Pick Up Info in the Courtyard.