

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, OCTOBER 2, 2011

## KNEEL DOWN AND FIGHT (6:18-20) EPHESIANS 6:18-20

**Ephesians 6:18-20 (ESV)** <sup>18</sup> *Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,* <sup>19</sup> *and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,* <sup>20</sup> *for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.*

“Prayer is the very spiritual air that the soldier of Christ breathes. It is the all-pervasive strategy in which warfare is fought.”

—John MacArthur

**Luke 18:1 (ESV)**—*And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.*

### 1A. HOW TO PRAY (6:18)

#### 1B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer—“All prayer”

**Philippians 4:6 (ESV)**—*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

**1 Timothy 2:8 (ESV)**—*I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling.*

#### 2B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer— “praying at all times”

**Luke 21:36 (ESV)**—*But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”*

**2 Timothy 1:3 (ESV)**—*I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.*

**How are we to pray at all times?**

#### 1C. We are to live in a continual God—\_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17 (ESV)**—*Pray without ceasing.*

**Acts 10:2 (ESV)**—*A devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God.*

#### 2C. We are to set our minds constantly on \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Colossians 3:2 (ESV)**—*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*

#### 3C. We are to enjoy our fellowship with God now.

**1 John 1:3 (ESV)**—*That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

**3B. The power of prayer—“In the Spirit”**

**Romans 8:26–27 (ESV)**—*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

**Ephesians 5:18 (ESV)**—*And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.*

**4B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer—“keep alert...with all perseverance”**

**We are to pray steadfastly**

**Colossians 4:2 (ESV)**—*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.*

**Luke 11:9 (ESV)**—*And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*

**We are to pray sensibly**

**1 Peter 4:7 (ESV)**—*The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.*

**1 Corinthians 14:15 (ESV)**—*What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also.*

**We are to pray specifically**

**John 14:13–14 (ESV)**—*Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.*

**We are to pray spiritually**

**2 Thessalonians 1:11–12 (ESV)**—*To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**5B. The objects of prayer—“All the saints”**

**1 Samuel 12:23 (ESV)**—*Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you...*

**2A. WHAT TO PRAY (6:19-20)**

**1B. He will proclaim the right \_\_\_\_\_ — the mystery of the gospel**

**2B. He will have the right \_\_\_\_\_ — in Him, for Him**

**3B. He will do so in the right \_\_\_\_\_ — with boldness**

**Luke 18:9–13 (ESV)**—*He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’”*