

Semper Paratus...Always Ready – Part Four
Ephesians 6:10-20

- A. The need for proper **PERSPECTIVE** (v10-12)
- B. The need for proper **PREPARATION** (v13-17)
- C. The need for proper **PRAYING** (v18-20)
1. You must pray in the **SPIRIT** (v18, Jude 20)
 - a. What this is not
 - 1) This is not praying in tongues
 - 2) This is not praying in a dramatic way
 - b. This is praying in agreement with the will of God
 - 1) This is taught by John in 1 John 5:14
 - 2) This can only happen if we are walking by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16)
- Prayer Time: Pray for an unbeliever to come to know Jesus; Pray for your children to walk with the Lord; Pray for your marriage to reflect Christ and the church; Pray for Grace Church that we would glorify God!*
2. You must pray without **STOPPING** (v18, 1 Thess 5:17)
 - a. We are to pray at more than prescribed times
 - 1) The Jews had three prescribed prayer times (3rd hour...9am; 6th hour...Noon; 9th hour...3pm)
 - 2) We also tend to limit our prayers to prescribed times (meals; bedtime; offering; benediction)

- b. Prayer is needed throughout the entire battle
3. You must pray with **SENSITIVITY** (v18)
- a. “Be on the alert” = alert is a compound word made up of “to chase” and “sleep” (idea of chasing away sleep or watchfulness, 2 Corinthians 11:27)
 - b. We must continually be on the alert
- Prayer Time: Ask the Lord to reveal to your spirit three things that you need to pray about at this moment!*
4. You must pray for the **SAINTS** (v18)
- a. Part of our defense are the prayers of other saints
 - b. This involves two things
 - 1) **INTENSITY** (Romans 15:30; Acts 12:5)
 - 2) **IDENTITY** (Hebrews 13:3)
- Prayer Time: Pray for a believer that is struggling with an illness; Pray for a believer who is struggling in a relationship; Pray for a believer you that has a need!*

5. You must pray with **SPECIFICS** (v18-20)
- a. “Petition” refers to specific requests (see also Philippians 4:6-7)
 - b. Paul gave them specific requests...to pray for right words to speak and for courage to speak them

Prayer Time: Pray for 3 needs in your life...marriage, kids, work, finances, temptations, decisions, spiritual life...with specific, measurable requests!