



# REVIVAL *in the* FAMILY

*Prayer – the Lifeline to Divine Power*

*Ephesians 6:18-20*

1. *What connects v 6:11 with v 6:18? Does the Apostle Paul see the connection as a “**divinely provided, spiritual lifeline**” that enables believers to stand against the devil?*

*Eph. 6:11, 17-19 **Put on the full armor of God**, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil, ..., <sup>18</sup> **praying at all times in the Spirit**, with all prayer and supplication. To that end **keep alert for all the saints**, and **also for me**, that **words may be given** to me in **opening my mouth boldly** to proclaim the mystery of the gospel. (ESV)*

*Jn. 17:15-17 "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to **keep them from the evil one**. <sup>16</sup> "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> "**Sanctify them in the truth**; Your word is truth. (NAU)*

*Prayer is a conversation with God. It cannot be our lifeline to divine power **if we do not use it**, if we do not pray. With it, we are on our own.*

**2 Cor. 10:3-4** *For though we walk in the flesh, **we are not waging war according to the flesh**.<sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have **divine power to destroy strongholds**.*

**2 Tim. 2:26**, ***with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition**, if perhaps **God may grant them repentance** leading to the knowledge of the truth,<sup>26</sup> and they may come to their senses and **escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will**. (NAU)*

- **A Lie:** “No one likes you. You’re so dumpy. Your outfit is terrible. You’re a loser (an “L”).”
- **Gen. 1:27** So God created man **in his own image**, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (ESV)
- **Ps. 139:14** I praise you, **for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.** Wonderful are your works; **my soul knows it very well.** (ESV)
- **My Prayer** – Father, **thank you that my identity is in you.** You created me and I choose to believe you rather than what others say.





2. “Praying at all times *“in the Spirit”* is about our relationship with God. (v18) 5 truths to guide us:

1. *Prayer is something I do* – silent or vocalized talk with God; like having a *family conversation* with someone who wants to talk with me. Matt 6:6-8

2. *I come as “family” before God.*

– Gal 4:6-7 And *because you are sons*, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying *“Abba! Father!”* So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, *then an heir...*”

3. *The Holy Spirit is “in me” not “up there.”*

– Rom. 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh *but in the Spirit*, if in fact the *Spirit of God dwells* in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

*To pray “in the Spirit” means, in part, that I know He is listening – and will respond as a loving parent does to their child.*

- *Matt. 6:6-8 "But you, when you pray, **go into your inner room**, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, ....<sup>7</sup> "And when you are praying, **do not use meaningless repetition** as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard **for their many words**.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, do not be like them; **for your father knows what you need, before you ask him**. (NAU)*
- *Matt 26:39 "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."*

2. (cont.) *Praying at all times “in the Spirit” is about our relationship with God. (v18) 5 truths to guide us:*

4. *I have a prayer-Helper who prays on my behalf.*

- *Rom. 8:26 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. (ESV)*

5. *Praying in the will of God reveals what I really believe about God – and the reality of my relationship to God.*

- *Rom. 8:27 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.*

3. *Sin is a hindrance to our prayer life. It will keep me from praying, and when I do pray, I will do so absent prayer's essential ingredient – faith.*

### *Hindrances to our prayer life and the spiritual war:*

1. *Sin (anger) opens the door to the enemy.* Eph. 4:26-27 *Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,<sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil.*
2. *Unrepentant sin grieves the Holy Spirit.* Eph. 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*
3. *Broken relationships.* 1 Pet. 3:7 *Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered. (ESV)*



3. (cont) Sin is a hindrance to our prayer life. It will keep me from praying, and when I do pray, I will do so absent prayer's essential ingredient – faith.

(cont.) Hindrances to our prayer life and the spiritual war:

4. **Unforgiveness.** Gives me a hard and bitter heart – **bc I am filled up with my own trespasses.**

– **Mark 11:25** “**Whenever you stand praying**, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven **may forgive you** your trespasses.”

*Because the HS lives in me, my body becomes His tabernacle, his house; so, what I do, bring him with me.*

- *1 Cor. 6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are **members of Christ?** Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them **members of a prostitute?** Never! ... <sup>18</sup> **Flee from sexual immorality.** Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the **sexually immoral person sins against his own body.** <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a **temple of the Holy Spirit** within you, whom you have from God? ....*
- *Matt. 6:22-23*

4. *Paul saw prayer as his **lifeline to the power of God**. He closes his letter to the church with a personal request that they pray for **God to enable him to do what he knows God has already called him to do**.*

*Eph. 6:19-20 To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, **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**. (ESV)*

- *Jesus in John 11 as he raising Lazarus from the dead.*

## ***Call to Action:***

- A. What if you tried to reframe the events of every day for the next week with prayer? How can you specifically involve God in your daily interactions if you do not request his help before you go into those interactions?*
- B. Revival in the family is impossible without prayer in the family. How can you and your family make plans for regular family prayer?*
- C. Read Eph 6:10-20 and pray through each piece of spiritual armor. You “put it on” when you do what each piece represents in your spiritual armor.*