



BATTLE READY

Life Groups Discussion Guide June 16, 2019

THE POWER OF PRAYER, Ephesians 6:18–20

CONNECT

1. When you think about prayer, how do you feel? Excited, neutral, worn-out, wary, bored or . . . ?

CELEBRATE

2. What does the Apostle Paul mean when he says to pray “in the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:18)? For guidance, read Ephesians 1:13, 1:17, 2:18, 3:16 & 5:18–21.
3. How powerful does Paul consider prayer to be? Look at Ephesians 6:19–20. Where does his message and his boldness in preaching come from? How does this inform the way we can pray for our elders, leaders and pastors at New Hope Church?
4. Think back through the book of Ephesians. How does Paul use prayer? What does prayer accomplish? For examples, consider Ephesians 1:15–23 & 3:14–21. Take time to pray these passages for one another.
5. Paul introduces the topic of spiritual warfare and describes our weapon and armor. Then he immediately commands Christians to pray. What specifically is he asking them to pray for? How do these requests connect to spiritual warfare? How does the neglect of prayer affect spiritual warfare?
6. How does alertness and perseverance impact the life of a soldier? How does that relate to us in prayer? See Ephesians 6:18–19. Share about someone you know who prays persistently. What is their relationship with God like?
7. Paul considers himself “an ambassador in chains” as he writes this letter from prison. Yet he does not ask for prayer that he might be released. Why not? What does he ask for instead? How can this guide our own prayer lives?
8. Take time to pray for each other taking inspiration from Paul’s requests. He asks for prayer in order that he might accomplish the purposes God has given him to complete (Ephesians 6:19–20, Acts 13:36). Pray for each other to accomplish God’s purposes. If you don’t know what God’s purpose for you is, pray for guidance, wisdom and discernment.
9. Read Romans 8:34. Given how powerful prayer is, how does it affect you to know that Christ is praying for you?

CONTRIBUTE

10. Consider your family, friends, co-workers, classmates and neighbors—those who know Christ and those who don’t. What are your wildest dreams for them? What are the biggest requests you could ask God for regarding them? Write these down and then pray for them. Continue praying for these requests every day this next week. The next time you gather in your small group, share about how God is moving.