

Main Point: Prayer helps all **phases** of our life when we **yield** to Him.

Slide

Ephesians 6:18 *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

1. The opening phrase instructs us to pray in the **Spirit**.
 - a. Which means beyond **ourselves**.
 - b. Romans 8:26-27 *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*
 - c. Effective prayer is when we **allow** our self to be **guided** by the Spirit.
2. Many **natural** problems are first solved at a **spiritual** level.
 - a. 1 Peter 5:8-9 *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*
 - b. The key to effective prayer is being **yielded** to the **will** of God.
 - c. Ephesians 6:12 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
3. Prayer is our **weapon** to fight against the **darkness**.
 - a. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 *For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*
4. We are instructed to **keep on** praying on all **occasions**.
 - a. Ephesians 6:18 *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*
 - b. With all **kinds** of prayers and requests:
 - c. **Thanksgiving**.
Psalm 34:1 *I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.*
 - d. **Requests**.
Philippians 4:6-7 *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

e. **Fellowship.**

1 John 1:3 *We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

f. **Intercession.**

1 Timothy 2:1 *I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—*

g. **Physical Needs.**

James 5:16 *Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.*

h. **Right words.**

Ephesians 6:19-20 *Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.*

5. Pray for **growth** and **blessings**.

a. Ephesians 3:14-21 *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. 20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

b. That Christ would **dwell** in our hearts by faith.

c. That we would **grasp** God's love at a **spiritual** level, beyond intellectual or theological knowledge.

d. That we would be **filled** with God's **fulness**.

e. John 17:20-23 *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.*