

Battle Ready

Ephesians 6

18And 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. **19**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.

Prayer expresses a need that we are unable to satisfy. **Prayer is an acknowledgment that we live in total dependence upon God.**

I think Paul desires for us to have this kind of attitude of prayer throughout each day. **Praying at all times means living our lives in constant fellowship and communion with God, it's like walking with a friend, communication will be frequent but not necessarily constant.**

What the Holy Spirit does?

The Holy Spirit, who is also the Spirit of truth and the one who inspired the Bible, fills believers with wisdom and a new way of seeing things.

He makes the words of the Bible come alive, helps us when we're scared or doubting, and protects us against wrong accusations and temptations. Like a good friend, a counselor, or a lawyer on our side, the Holy Spirit guides us to become who we're meant to be.

Tim Keller says: "The Holy Spirit's work on earth is to make Jesus known and followed, inspiring us to be selfless like him and depend on the Spirit's guidance to honor God with our lives."

God moved from dwelling among His people in the garden, to dwelling among them in a physical tabernacle and temple, to dwelling among them in Jesus, to now living in the followers of Jesus

The greatest news for the followers of Jesus is that God has done what He had never done in all of human history. He has set up permanent residence in His people through His Spirit.

Ephesians 1

13And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, **14**who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

We were never meant to live segmented lives where we give God one part and not another. To be filled with His presence means that you allow Him to fill every part of you. It's only in giving Him access to every part that you experience the presence of His transforming grace, even in those areas that you have walled off and hidden.

Acts 1:8, (ESV)“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”

If there's one thing to know about the early followers of Christ even after His resurrection, it's that they were scared and fearful. When the Spirit filled them, ***He turned these discouraged and frightened followers of Christ into a bold and fearless force that began to turn the world upside down.***

The Spirit gives you boldness!