

“Pray in the Spirit!”

Ephesians 6:18-24

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In Ephesians 6:18 Paul gives the final ingredient for waging successful spiritual warfare against Satan and his demons—fervent, biblical, specific, ongoing prayer. Our fight is a spiritual one, not a human one. One of the most powerful spiritual gifts God has granted to the Christian is prayer. Today we examine various ways the Christian is to pray to achieve victory in the spiritual struggle against Satan and sin:

“through every prayer and petition praying at every opportunity in the Spirit, and to this end keeping alert with all persistence and petition for all the saints” (6:18)

1. Pray biblically.

A. Continuously...it’s a command

“praying” = *proseuchomenoi* = present tense participle

*“at every opportunity” ; “at all times”
(ESV; NASB)*

“praying always” (KJV)

“every...every...all...all”

B. *“in the Spirit”*

2. Pray diversely.

“through every prayer and petition”

“with all kinds of prayers and requests” (NIV)

“with all prayer and supplication” (ESV)

3. Pray fervently.

“keeping alert”; “watching” (KJV)

4. Pray persistently.

“with all persistence”; “perseverance” (ESV)

5. Pray selflessly.

A. Pray for fellow believers in your flock
“with petition for all the saints”

B. Pray for the pastor and your leaders
“especially for me...” (6:19 ff.)

For further reading on biblical prayer see:

E. M. Bounds, *The Complete Works on Prayer*

D. L. Moody, *Prevailing Prayer*

James Rosscup, *An Exposition on Prayer in the Bible*

Charles Spurgeon, *The Power in Prayer*

Warren Wiersbe, *Classic Sermons on Prayer*