

- The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace

- The Shield of Faith

- The Helmet of Salvation

- The Sword of the Spirit

5. How does this passage inform our prayer life? What does v.18 teach us? What component of the armour needs special attention in your life?

How will you pray differently this week? How can we pray for each other, especially according to verse 19?



# A Life of Prayer

## Growth Group Study Guide

### Week 4: War and Prayer

### 13 June 2021

## Ephesians 6: 10– 20

#### **Series Overview:**

Prayer is not an optional activity of a 'Follower of Jesus', it is central to our faith. Yet many of us struggle to maintain a regular, dynamic prayer life.

We at Lismore Baptist Church have dedicated this present season to listening and responding to God, therefore we will spend this time through our preaching and teaching ministry focusing on prayer, with the hope of God transforming not only our individual prayer life, but also that of our faith community.

We invite you to join with us to explore the possibility of real and lasting prayer transformation, through our weekly Sunday sermons, regular Growth Groups, and our personal devotional times.

May God bless you.

Whether or not we know it, or understand it, we are in an invisible battle with an enemy called Satan (or the devil).

In order to be successful in this battle, it is important to understand a few key points about this foe:

1. He is a created being (Colossians 1: 16– 17), therefore he is not equal with God.
2. Because he is created, he is not omnipresent (everywhere), omniscient (all knowing) or omnipotent (all powerful).
3. Until he is banished to hell when Jesus returns, he and his demons roam the earth (1 Peter 5: 8, Job 1: 7)
4. He doesn't have ultimate freedom (Job 1: 12)
5. Satan is defeated (Colossians 2: 13– 15)

God could with one blink of an eye or flick of a little finger, dispatch Satan and all of his hordes out of the world and out of the way — instead of doing that he employs human agents to do war with them and fight them in order to get victories.

He could just get rid of the devil so that all we had to deal with was human flesh. But he hasn't chosen to get rid of the devil. He will throw the devil into the lake of fire someday. But now God lets him run on a leash, let's him do great damage in the world.

What does this mean for us as "Followers of Jesus"? How do we pray? How do we respond to daily events, challenges, and difficulties?

## Read Ephesians 6: 10– 20

1. We are called to be strong (Ephesians 6: 10). Where does this strength come from?
2. In Ephesians 6: 11, we read about the devil's schemes. What sort of schemes (plans) do you think he uses?
3. What does Ephesians 6: 12 say about our enemies? Who are they? Why is this important to know?
4. Look at the various components that make up the armour of God (Ephesians 6: 14– 17). How do we put these on? What would they look like on us?
  - **The Belt of Truth**
  - **The Breastplate of Righteousness**