

**Small Group Lesson – Week of June 5, 2022**  
**Support Your Local Shepherd (Ephesians 6:18-24)**

**Introduction:**

Has your power ever gone out before? What do you miss most when the power goes out?

**Ephesians 6:18-24 (NLT)**

<sup>18</sup> **Pray in the Spirit** at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. <sup>19</sup> **And pray for me, too.** Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. <sup>20</sup> I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should. <sup>21</sup> To bring you up to date, **Tychicus** will give you a full report about what I am doing and how I am getting along. He is a beloved brother and faithful helper in the Lord's work. <sup>22</sup> I have sent him to you for this very purpose—to let you know how we are doing and to encourage you. <sup>23</sup> Peace be with you, dear brothers and sisters, and may God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you love with faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> May God's grace be eternally upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Going Deeper Study Questions:**

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- Do you recall where Paul is writing this letter from? What do you notice about the prayers he asks for himself?
- What does it mean to *pray in the Spirit* (Ephesians 6:18)?
- What are we told to do in the end of Ephesians 6:18? What does this mean? Why is it important?
- Why did Paul want prayer for himself (Ephesians 6:19-20)?
- Who does the Apostle Paul mention in Ephesians 6:21? Why so? What are two characteristics of this brother?
- What are the two things Paul asks God for believers in Ephesians 6:23? What do these terms mean?

**Application Questions:**

- Is praying regularly something that comes easy to you or something that is more of a challenge? Why do you think that is?

- What are some benefits of praying together? How has this blessed you, or helped you in the past? How has this helped you get more comfortable or familiar with prayer?
- How can we know whether to keep on praying or to conclude that God's answer is *no*?
- Is praying "in the Spirit" opposed to having an organized, systematic approach to prayer? Why/why not?
- What does it mean to pray with alertness and perseverance? How might you grow in these areas?
- How does the command to pray at all times influence our daily routines? What methods or tools have helped you incorporate prayer into your everyday life?
- In what areas do you think our church leaders need the most prayer support?

### **Pray for One Another:**

- How can our group pray for you as a result of our discussion?
- Pray that we would make prayer a daily habit in our lives and in our families.
- Pray that we would grow in our understanding and practice of prayer.

### **Assignment:**

- Share with a friend or family member your biggest take-away from this passage.
- Make prayer a regular practice in your life. Team up with one of your group members and pray together on a regular basis.
- Commit to praying daily for CFC's staff and ministry leaders.