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Prayer Evangelism & The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-20

Review of Prayer Evangelism

What it is: It is talking to God about the lost before we talk to them about God.

What it does: It changes the spiritual climate in our sphere of influence: home, work, school, etc and opens the spiritual eyes of the lost to the love of God through answered prayers that meet felt needs.

How it does it: Jesus' taught it in four interconnected steps:

1. To bless
2. To fellowship
3. To minister
4. To proclaim

The key is the peace of God that dwells within us that we choose to impart to others in order to open their eyes to the reality of a loving, caring God.

Prayer Evangelism and the Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, ¹⁹ and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:10-20 (NASB)

- Satan and his demons are blinding the lost to the light of the Gospel.
2 Corinthians 4:4
- Our assignment is to open the eyes of the lost for them to turn to God.
Acts 26:17,18
- To do so we must engage those forces of evil in spiritual battle.
- To that end we must put on the full armor of God
- We must also have adequate knowledge of the battlefield.

Dual assignment

1. To be strong in the Lord
2. In the power of His might.

These are two different but complementary things.
Sequence is key.

To be strong in the Lord has to do with bridging six societal gaps (ethnic, denominational, ministerial, gender, age/family and marketplace positioning) that divide people and make it possible for the devil to blind them to the Gospel.

The strength of His might has to do with wearing the full armor of God.
Key word: “full” - an incomplete armor will render it useless.

There is a key component in the armor that is usually overlooked, giving the devil the upper hand. Which one is it?

- The Belt of Truth
- The Breastplate of Righteousness
- The Sandals of the Gospel of Peace
- The Shield of Faith
- The Helmet of Salvation
- The Sword of the Spirit

The key component is the sandals of the gospel of peace.

²⁶ Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

²⁷ and do not give the devil an opportunity. Ephesians 4:26-27

- Why is the devil firing flaming missiles (arrows) at this point in the battle? Because he was forced to flee from our sphere of influence once we began to walk in peace.

“And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet”(Romans 16:20)

- What peace does for you and what it does to the devil. The opposite is tragically true also. (Ephesians 4:26-27) Do not give room to the devil because he will take it and bring devastation to you, to your loved ones and to your sphere of influence.
- Why is it that a world that is anxious to hear the gospel does not receive our message? (Romans 8:19)

Decision Time. Make a decision to become strong in the Lord and in the power of His might with special attention to the key component in the armor: walking in peace.

Biblical objective for the church: To lift up Jesus in our sphere of influence.

Expected outcome:

- a. For Satan to fall and his demons to become subject to us
- b. For us to dismantle his structure of evil by taking the Kingdom of God all over.
- c. For sinners to force their way into the Kingdom of God.

A component of the armor that Paul could not describe by looking at the Roman armor because it had not been invented yet: the walkie talkie – crucial to communication in the heat of battle.

For additional materials and testimonies on this teaching visit
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Small Group Questions

1. What insights would you like to share from Sunday's message? What were your take aways?
2. Share in your small group your experiences with Prayer Evangelism. Have you committed to bless and pray for people in your sphere of influence? If you have, share with your small group the names of those you are praying for regularly. Pray for one another for opportunities to minister and hold one another accountable throughout the week.
3. Read and discuss 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Acts 26:17,18. Paul reminds us that Satan and his demons are blinding the lost to the light of the gospel. How aware are you of this unseen dimension? How does this effect the way you minister to the lost?
4. Discuss the enemy's battlefield: the 6 areas that divide people and that the enemy uses to blind people to the gospel.
5. Read Ephesians 6:10-17. In your small group discuss the pieces of the armor of God. As you consider your armor, what parts are in good shape? What do you need to do to get ready for battle wearing your *full armor*?
6. Read Romans 16:20 and Ephesians 4:26-27. Discuss why the sandals of the gospel of peace are a key component of the armor of God. Why do you think peace is so important, back your answer up with scripture?
7. Read Ephesians 6:18-20. Discuss the importance of prayer in this battle. How does prayer evangelism fit into this battle?