

LEARN

What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday? What was most helpful, encouraging or challenging to your walk with Christ?

Why is the context of Ephesians 6:10-17 important to remember in order to rightly understand the force of what Paul is saying in verse 18?

(We fight a real, spiritual battle against a real and powerful enemy. God provides not only spiritual armor but equips us with the power prayer to defend attacks and defeat the enemy)

Why does Paul mention keeping alert with all perseverance when it comes to prayer?

(Human nature is to give up easily, pray and forget about it, get discouraged when we don't see quick results. Paul is refreshingly honest that we need to keep on praying)

PRACTICE

As a group, describe the kind of person who is "praying at all times in the Spirit". What will it take for you to personally grow toward being that kind of person?

(This is a person who goes to God first, not last. They enjoy thanking God for things often. They believe God wants to hear them pray. They live day to day in the reality that God is with them, leading them, using them for his glory.)

As a group, describe the impact that praying bold, big, believing prayers would have in our church. What difference *should* prayer make at Harvest on an ongoing basis?

CHANGE

We all need to grow in prayer. If/when you lack a vibrant prayer life, what are 1-2 reasons why? How can you as a group of men or women help one another grow in prayer?

(Reasons likely include distractions, shame regarding sin, not seeing prayers answered, "God knows anyway so why pray", etc. Press beyond initial answers to illustrate that the deepest reasons have to do with unbelief, pride, and perhaps laziness to do it. How to help each other could include spending more time praying together during SG, regularly ask about prayer life, etc. It's a heart issue, and the heart needs to be captivated by God's grace and power to answer prayer!)

Spend time *praying together*. Pray for yourself, other group members, and Harvest as a whole to grow in prayer. (Do not front load the time with "prayer requests", but get right to it. Encourage and model vulnerability in prayer, sharing from the heart asking God to grow you in the area of prayer.)