



Eph 6:18–24

Read, the passage below...

Ask the Lord to open your eyes, that you may behold wonderful things from His Word (Ps 119:18), and that you would receive His Word with humility—putting it into practice in your daily life (Jas 1:21–22).

Passage:¹

- 18 ¹With all ^aprayer and petition ^{2b}pray at all times ^cin the Spirit, and with this in view, ^{3d}be on the alert with all ^eperseverance and ^fpetition for all the saints,
- 19 and ^apray on my behalf, that utterance may be ^{given} to me ^bin the opening of my mouth, to ^{make} known with ^cboldness ^dthe mystery of the gospel,
- 20 for which I am ^{an} ^aambassador ^bin ¹chains; that ²in ^{proclaiming} it I may ^{speak} ^bboldly, ^das I ^{ought} to ^{speak}.
- 21 ^aBut that you also may ^{know} about ^{my} circumstances, ¹how I am ^{doing}, ^bTychicus, ^cthe beloved ^{brother} and ^{faithful} ^{minister} in the Lord, will ^{make} everything known to you.
- 22 ^{1a}I have ^{sent} him ^{to} you ^{for} this very purpose, ^{so} that you may ^{know} ²about us, and that he may ^bcomfort your hearts.
- 23 ^aPeace be to the brethren, and ^blove with faith, ^{from} God the Father and ^{the} Lord Jesus Christ.
- 24 ^{Grace} be with all those who ^{love} our Lord Jesus Christ ¹with ^{incorruptible} love.

Exploring the Text:

As you answer the following questions, please take the time to read all the **cross references** at the end of the questions. These are provided to enrich your study experience.

1. What is the relationship between v18 and the section that comes before? Is this still part of the spiritual armour or not? If not, how does it tie in to the spiritual armour?

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2. Why do you think does Paul use both the word “prayer” as well as “petition” in v18? What might be the difference between the two?

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3. What is the most repeated word in v18? Why do you think Paul repeats this word so many times? What is his point?

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4. What does it mean to "pray at all times?" (cf. Lk 5:16, 18:1; Acts 1:14; Rom 12:12; Phil 4:6; Jas 4:2)

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5. If God knows all things, is it really necessary for us to pray? (cf. v18; 1Sam 12:23; 2Cor 1:8-11; Philemon 22; Jas 4:2, 5:16; 1Pet 3:12)

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6. During what kind of circumstances do you find yourself most inclined to pray? What does that say about your commitment to prayer?

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7. What are some of the things that prevents us from praying?

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3.	6.

8. What does it mean to "pray in the Spirit?" (cf. Jn 4:23-24) Is this praying in tongues? Why or why not? (cf. Rom 15:16; 1Cor 12:3; Col 1:8) Why is it necessary to pray in the Spirit? (cf. Rom 8:26-27; 15:30, Col 4:12)

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9. When Paul says: "with this in view," what is he referring to? What is "this?"

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10. How does the verbal phrase "be on the alert," relate to the verbal phrase "pray at all times?" (cf. Matt 26:41; Lk 22:31; Col 4:2; 1Pet 5:8)

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11. How should Paul's example in vv19-20 inform our priorities in prayer?

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12. How do vv21-22 relate to vv18-20?

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13. In all likelihood, the letter to the Philippians was the next letter that Paul wrote. As we look at Phil 1:12-20, what evidence can we see of God's answer to Paul's prayer requests?

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14. What are some practical steps that we can take to develop a richer prayer life?

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15. Why can we have confidence that God will hear our prayers? (cf. Heb 4:14-16; 1Pet 3:7)

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Notes: