

Week of April 7 - Pray in the Spirit

Small Group Lesson 29

Connect

Working together as a group, please spend a few minutes and try to come up with a simple answer to the question: "What is the gospel?"

Verses - Ephesians 6:18-20 (CSB)

18 Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints. 19 Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. 20 For this I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I might be bold enough to speak about it as I should.

Study

1. As a group, please make a list of all the things which we can learn about prayer by reading verse 18. (There are at least 6 things.)

   One of the things on your list should be Paul's teaching that we should pray ***"in the Spirit."*** What does Paul mean by this?

   Please make sure that all of the members of your group understand the meaning of all of the things on the list you just made.

SHARE When you pray, personally, do you sometimes feel that you are praying "in the Spirit" and sometimes *not*? What is the difference? Please share with the group.

2. Notice in verse 19 that even the Apostle Paul asks others to pray that God will give him the message when he speaks the Gospel? Why is this significant?

SHARE Did you ever have the experience of God "giving you the message" when you began to speak to someone about the gospel? What was this like? What was the result?

3. Paul writes (v.20a) "For this I am an ambassador in chains." What does he mean by this?

SHARE In your life as a Christian, have you ever felt like an ambassador in chains? If so, please explain. Did you follow Paul's example (v.20b) and ask other believers to pray for you, that you might be bold enough to speak the gospel as you should?

GROW Please make a private list of at least three people to whom you know that you should speak about the gospel. Then ask God to help you to accomplish this, and ask your SG members to pray for you, just as Paul asked the Ephesians. Please report progress to your group in the weeks ahead.

Magnify

Based on today's lesson,

- ❖ What might you be able to confess?
- ❖ What can you praise God for?
- ❖ What can you thank Him for?

Take prayer requests and pray for each other.