

Stay Alert and Pray

Our daily battle with evil is very real. *Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 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.* (Ephesians 6:11-12, NASB)

We are urged to put on *the full armor of God*:

- the belt of truth
- the breastplate of righteousness
- the boots of the gospel
- the shield of faith
- the helmet of salvation
- the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

But Paul doesn't stop there. To deal with evil day by day, pray! *Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.* (Ephesians 6:18, NIV)

He's not saying, "And oh, by the way, don't forget to say your prayers at night." He is describing aggressive, constant, serious prayer.

- Pray *in the Spirit*, in that personal connection you have with the Almighty, Living God. You are talking to Him about matters of utmost importance. Come with confidence that His own Spirit is helping you pray.
- Pray *on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests*. Never tire of coming to Him regularly, constantly, with every need.
- *Be alert*; literally, *stay awake!* Stay watchful! You and those you love are in a struggle of eternal life vs. eternal death. You could come under attack at any time, and prayer is one of your main defenses. You are on guard duty. Stay alert!
- *Always keep on praying for all the Lord's people*. Don't let your prayer life shrink down to yourself and your immediate circle of family and friends. Lift your eyes to the people around you, to your church, your community, your nation, your world.

The evil all around is stronger than you, but God is more powerful than them all. Pray!

Hymn: [Do You Talk to the Lord?](#)