



# Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

905 Clearfield Street \* Morehead, KY 40351 \* (606)776-7089 \* www.gracemorehead.org

# PRAY

*You Gotta*

*Message preached on Sunday Morning, December 1, 2024*

Mark 16:15-20

- 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.  
16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.  
17 **And these signs shall follow them that believe;** In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;  
18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.  
19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.  
20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.** Amen.

**BELOVED:** This is the description of what the church is suppose to be...we are suppose to have signs following us everywhere we go.

John 14:12 – “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

**YET:** Much of the church has NOT seen that power.

We are spending too much time in the middle of battles...struggles...trying to figure out how to get out of them.

**WHY?** We are missing out on an important part of the Christian life. The PRAYER LIFE!

**YOU SAY:** I am praying!

**BELOVED:** Pray more!

**QUICK THINK:** The night that Jesus was arrested and crucified...

- \* He was betrayed by one of His closest friends.
- \* He was getting ready to be tortured.
- \* He was getting ready for the BIGGEST victory in the history of all-things.

**QUESTION:** What did He choose to do?

Mark 14:32 – “And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.”

**QUESTION:** Why did Jesus pray? It didn't change anything about what He was going to go through...He didn't talk God out of it.

**BELOVED:** Prayer is about connecting to the Father...connecting His heart to your own...preparing yourself...clarifying things...knowing things...it is NOT about talking God out of anything.

**UNDERSTAND:** Prayer may not keep you from the battle...but it will guide you through it...to the victory.

Prayer changes things! We MUST do it more.

## The Armor of God

One of the most important passages of Scripture on preparing for the battle.

Ephesians 6:10-18

- 10 Finally, my brethren, ***be strong in the Lord***, and in the ***power of his might***.  
**IMPORTANT:** Not your own might. Not your own thoughts.
- 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to ***stand against the wiles of the devil***.  
**BELOVED #1:** If you are suppose to put on the armor of God...that means there WILL BE A FIGHT.  
**BELOVED #2:** “***Stand against***” – don’t drop during battle...that is when the enemy has the BEST advantage! Keep standing!  
“***Wiles of the devil***” – methods, art, skill, cunning  
**BELOVED #3:** There are various methods used by the enemy to defeat us. He is NOT that smart...but he has been around for a long time...he knows what works.  
**THINK ABOUT** Eve in the garden. She knew what the Word had said...but if she would have stopped and talked to God, she would have NOT fallen for the wiles of the enemy.
- 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.  
**UNDERSTAND:** This is so important.  
Your battle isn’t in the physical realm (yes it takes place in it) it is in the spirit realm. You are not going to find your victory by thinking it though.  
**HERE IS WHAT I HEARD:** Many churches are trying to tap into church growth, but working out new advertising concepts.  
**HOWEVER:** If you win people through marketing strategies then you have to keep them through marketing strategies...also, are you actually teaching them how to win spiritual battles for themselves?  
**BELOVED:** If you are winning them through spiritual strategies (prayer)...you will keep them through spiritual strategies...and teach them how to be victorious.  
**BECAUSE** when you defeat principalities, you are open to their spoils.
- 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to ***withstand in the evil day***, and having done all, to stand.  
“***Withstand***” – not just standing, but to oppose...to actually fight  
**BELOVED:** It is important to keep standing...but if you don’t fight, you will not win.
- 14 Stand therefore, ***having your loins girt about with truth***, and having on the ***breastplate of righteousness***;  
“***Loins girt about with truth***”  
John 17:17 – They Word is Truth.  
**YOU MUST** know the Word.  
Describe this action of tucking your robe into the belt...SO YOU DON’T TRIP!  
**GO BACK TO EVE:** If she would have just lived based on the Word she knew...she would NOT have tripped.  
  
“***Breastplate of Righteousness***”  
You are in right standing with God.  
This understanding protects your heart and organs.

- 15 And your ***feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace***;  
This is one of the most important keys for not slipping.  
Know the Good News...know it is for you...know it is nothing missing nothing broken.  
BE ready with this information.
- 16 Above all, ***taking the shield of faith***, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.  
We know the shield of faith. Door sized shield.  
Have your faith working! Get behind your faith. Let your faith take the shots.
- 17 And take ***the helmet of salvation***, and the ***sword of the Spirit***, which is the word of God:  
***“Helmet of Salvation”***  
Of course this protects your head...your mind.  
**KNOW:** Who you are and what you have (Ephesians 1).  
Confusion is brutal...and a good thump to the head will mess you up.
- “Sword of the Spirit”***  
**YES:** The Word of God is the main offensive weapon! Who would have thought!  
Get the Word in your mouth.  
**LORD TO KENNETH COPELAND:** “Let the Word fight its own fight, because it has within itself the power to bring itself to pass.”

**UNDERSTAND:** Each of these things are important in their own right.

**HOWEVER:** In context, I believe, they are all pointing towards the next verse...

- 18 ***Praying always*** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

**I KINDA GET** the feeling that many Christians focus on getting the whole armor on...understanding all the areas above...but don't really know how they are intended on being used.

**THE OLD QUOTE:** “All dressed up and nowhere to go.”

**BELOVED:** All these things are intended to help us in prayer.

**NOTICE:** We are told to pray...

- \* All occasions (all the time) – *“In consistency lies the power.”*
- \* **SMITH WIGGLESWORTH:** Someone asked him how long he prays. He answered, “About 15 minutes, but I rarely go more than 15 minutes without praying.”
- \* All kinds of prayers (petition, faith, dedication, commitment, intercession)
- \* In the Spirit (tongues)

We are suppose to pray. Constantly. In all situations.

**YET:** Often we are not doing it much at all...perhaps even feeling weird to pray before meals.

## Our Model Prayer

We see Jesus giving an example of prayer in Matthew 6.

**AGAIN:** My purpose, this morning, is not to go through the whole prayer...but to point a few things out.

### Matthew 6:9-13

- 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.  
11 Give us this day our daily bread.  
12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

**1.) Pray to the Father.**

Not dear Jesus!

**2.) In the name of Jesus.**

John 14:13,14

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

John 15:16 – “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”

John 16:23,26

23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

**3.) “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”**

The very foundation of prayer...Heaven on earth!

I have heard it said that this is NOT a New Covenant prayer...because Jesus had not yet risen from the dead...so God’s kingdom was still in heaven, not on earth.

**BELOVED:** Jesus WAS and IS the New Covenant! That is why the Old religious people got so annoyed at Him.

Matthew 3:2 – John the Baptist said the Kingdom of God is at hand.

Matthew 4:17 – Jesus said the Kingdom of God is at hand.

“**At hand**” – we can reach out and touch it...grab it...have it.

**BELOVED:** The kingdom came with Jesus. Yes, His death and resurrection completed the work. **HOWEVER:** Jesus was teaching us how to do things in HIS KINGDOM.

Our prayer life is about bringing KINGDOM stuff into our lives.

Just because the Kingdom of God has come...doesn’t mean you will enjoy it.

**ILLUSTRATION:** The rodeo that came to Morehead a while back...it came, but I didn’t enjoy it.

The Kingdom comes to you through prayer.

Prayer activates the KINGDOM in you.

**Final Point for Today**

Genesis 1:26 God gave dominion and authority to man. To Adam.

**SOMEONE** asked God why He started the whole Bible with the phrase, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”

**GOD ANSWERED:** “To establish ownership.”

Genesis 3 Adam sinned and the enemy took authority away.  
2 Corinthians 4:4 – he became the god of this world.

**ON THE CROSS:** Jesus reclaimed that authority when He was raised from the dead. He took back what Adam had lost.

**THEREFORE:** Each believer...

- \* Has authority over all demons and demonic work.
- \* Can pray and have authority through faith in the Name of Jesus.
- \* Can use His Word to defeat all powers.
- \* Can pray, unfiltered, to the Father...boldly!

**So, BELOVED:** We must pray always...

- \* For the ministry
- \* For your pastors
- \* For your family
- \* For your friends
- \* For yourself
- \* For all things (political, local, work related)