



Week Eight

7/26 to 8/1

Verse to memorize this week:

And 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



Devotional

Congratulations on making it to the final week of our Discipleship Challenge! You've learned about every piece of the Armor of God. You learned many new words that will help you better understand God's word, the Bible. You've practiced hearing God's voice in prayer and Bible reading. This final week we will focus on one of the most important parts of any Christian's relationship with Jesus: prayer. Our verse this week says to pray on all occasions. This means when you're happy, anxious, excited, scared, hopeful, not so hopeful...these are all times we can and should talk to God.

The second half of this verse tells us to be alert and keep on praying for the Lord's people. Unlike physical armor that soldiers take on and off, our spiritual armor should never be taken off; that's how we stay alert. You should never take off truth, righteousness, salvation, faith, the Spirit, or peace. Not only should we be praying for our own situations and feelings, God tells us to intercede, or pray for others too. We can and should pray for our families, our pastors, our teachers, and our friends. If you don't know what to pray for or what words to use, try finding a prayer in the Bible that fits your circumstance. We can trust the Bible because it all came from God and is good for teaching, correcting, and training us so that we are equipped to do anything God asks of us (2 Timothy 3:16).

Define

This week's word: PERSISTENT

Persistent means refusing to give up, even when things get hard. The Bible mentions many persistent people and prayers. There was a widow who kept asking for justice until she got it (Luke 18:1-8). It mentions the relentless friends who were determined to get their friend healed by Jesus, even if they had to lower him through a hole in the roof (Luke 5:17-39). The Bible says in Luke 11:9-13, if we keep asking, seeking, knocking, we will get what we're looking for.

What is something you have been persistently praying for?

Pray

Lord Jesus, thank you for all I have learned in the last 8 weeks. Help me to daily put on the Armor of God and pray without stopping. Teach me to be a prayer warrior. Give me words to say when I pray for myself and intercede for others. Help me to be persistent in learning about you, praying, worshipping, and sharing the Good News of what you've done to everyone. I love you, help me to trust you and seek you every day. In Jesus name, amen.

Journal

Rewrite these important verses about prayer.

Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing (stopping).