



Made for War

Sermon Series Guide Fall 2026

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HOW TO USE THIS SERIES GUIDE:

Each week of the series contains three parts:

1. Scripture covered in that week's sermon

2. A place to journal or take notes

3. A discussion guide with questions



View Service
Recordings



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Playlist

Made for War

During this series we will examine many of the spiritual disciplines—what they are, why they are given, what they have in common, and how they are most useful. However, rather than simply studying the basic practice of each discipline, our aim is to view them in light of spiritual warfare. Since we have an enemy always scheming, since we have been given armor and weaponry for battle, since we're ultimately promised victory, how should these practices be understood and applied? We'll discover that like those who are in Christ Jesus, the spiritual disciplines are *made for war*.

The first part of our study will focus primarily on **Ephesians 6:10-20** and the reality of spiritual warfare, our enemy, our armor, weaponry, and victory. Then we will spend the last several weeks evaluating the spiritual disciplines through the lens of spiritual struggle. As we contemplate the individual and corporate aspects of these exercises, we will consider how each particularly helps us in our fight. The goal is to present the spiritual disciplines as both accessible and necessary, so that we might *stand firm* and make much of Him.



Spiritual Warfare

Week 1
Wartime
Mentality

WEEK 1

Wartime Mentality

1st Timothy 4:7-8

Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Ephesians 6:10-12

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors, and hail a materialist and a magician with the same delight.” — C.S. Lewis

WEEK 1

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **1st Timothy 4:7-8** and discuss the following.

1. How do we train ourselves for godliness? What makes this particularly challenging for you?
2. When Paul says that godliness holds promise now and “*also for the life to come*,” what does he mean?
3. Which of the spiritual disciplines have you practiced with the most regularity? Which ones would you like to grow in or learn more about?
4. When it comes to thinking of spiritual forces of evil and demonic activity in the world, there are a couple of common extremes—those who imagine little devils around every corner and those who are skeptical of their existence. Which of these extremes are you most prone to lean toward?

Read **Ephesians 6:10-12** and discuss the following.

5. How does this passage describe our spiritual struggle?
6. What can we infer from the text?
7. Spiritually speaking, if you were to live with a wartime mentality, how might you expect your life to change? Explain.
8. What do you hope to personally gain from this series?

Week 2
Satan's
Schemes

WEEK 2

Satan's Schemes

Ephesians 6:10-12

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

WEEK 2

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **Ephesians 6:10-12** and discuss the following.

1. What does this passage have to say about our enemy? What can we learn from this description? In your own words, what makes our enemy most dangerous?
2. Called "*the devil*" here and "*Satan*" elsewhere, what do these names mean, and what do they teach us about how he works? Can you think of other names he is called or ways he is portrayed elsewhere in Scripture?

Read **Matthew 4:1-11** and discuss the following.

4. Describe the devil's strategy with our Lord. How did he tempt Jesus?
5. How did Christ respond? How did He conquer Satan? How do we overcome him today?
6. How does Satan come after the church today?
7. How does the enemy tend to come after you? Historically, when have you been most vulnerable or susceptible to attack?



Week 3

The
Whole
Armor

The Whole Armor

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

WEEK 3

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **Ephesians 6:13-17** and discuss the following.

1. What does this passage command, and for what purpose?
2. Briefly discuss what each piece of the armor represents: *belt of truth* (v.14), *breastplate of righteousness* (v.14), *shoes made ready by the gospel of peace* (v.15), *shield of faith* (v.16), *helmet of salvation* (v.17), and *sword of the Spirit* (v.17). What do each of these have in common?
3. Why is it important to understand the armor is not our own?
4. Have you had any “*flaming darts*” fired at you or someone you love? Explain.
5. How do we begin to “*take up the whole armor of God*”?

A photograph of an open book with dense text, illuminated by two lit candles in a dark setting. The book is open to two pages of dense, handwritten text. The pages are aged and slightly yellowed. The candles are in ornate holders, and their light casts a warm glow on the book and the surrounding area. The background is dark and textured.

Spiritual Disciplines

Week 4

PSALM 23.



The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He maketh me lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his
name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil: for
thou art with me; thy rod
thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of
mine enemies: thou anointest
my head with oil; my cup
runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days
of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the LORD for ever.



Seeking,
Savoring,
& Saturated

WEEK 4

Seeking, Savoring, & Saturated

Psalm 119:9-16

⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!

¹¹ I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

¹² Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes!

¹³ With my lips I declare
all the rules of your mouth.

¹⁴ In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.

¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

WEEK 4

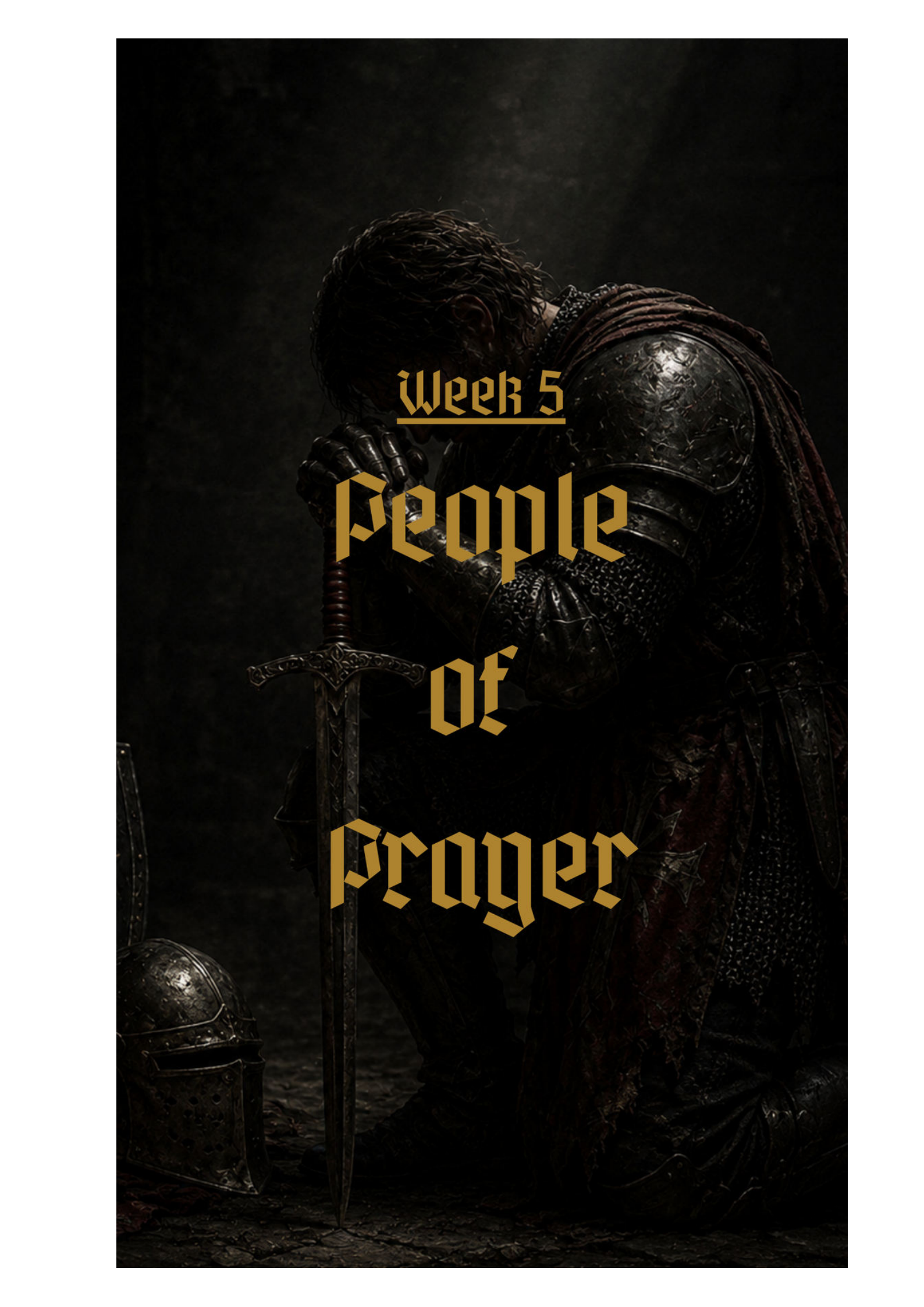
D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **Psalm 119:9-16** and discuss the following.

1. According to this passage, what are some benefits to reading and studying Scripture? List as many as you can find in the text.
2. In your own words, describe what seeking with a whole heart involves. How does one begin to store the Word in his heart?
3. Donald Whitney calls this discipline Bible intake. Of the 9 ways to intake Scripture listed below, which have you practiced? Share some of the benefits. Do you have a favorite method?

Hear–Read–Write–Study–Memorize–Meditate–Journal–Pray–Sing

5. How has knowing Scripture helped you stand firm in the faith? How will it help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
6. Share how you plan to saturate your mind and heart in the Word this week.

A dramatic, low-key photograph of a knight in full plate armor kneeling on a stone floor. The knight's head is bowed, and his hands are clasped in prayer. He holds a longsword upright in his right hand. A helmet with a visor lies on the floor to the left. The background is dark and smoky, creating a somber and contemplative atmosphere. The text 'Week 5' is overlaid in a gold, gothic-style font, underlined.

Week 5

People

of

Prayer

WEEK 5

People of Prayer

Ephesians 6:18a

praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

Matthew 6:5-15

“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹ Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,

¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your

³⁴ Father forgive your trespasses.

WEEK 5

D-Group Discussion Guide

1. How would you describe your prayer life?

Take turns reading the following verses: **1st Thessalonians 5:17; James 5:13, 16; Philippians 4:6; 1st Timothy 2:1; Ephesians 6:18.**

2. According to the above Scripture, how and when should we pray? Who should we pray for? What kinds of things should we pray about?

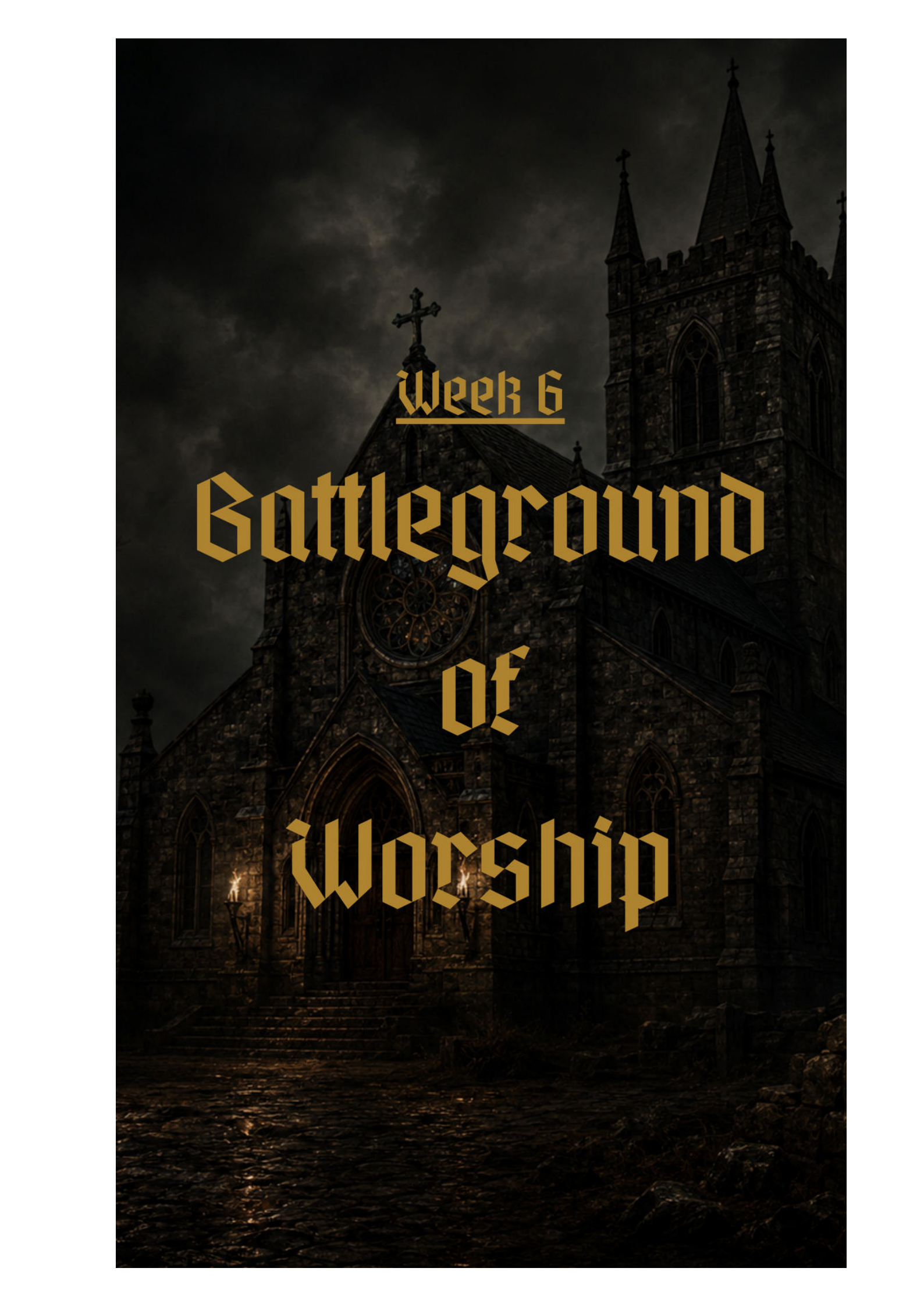
Read **Matthew 6:5-15** and discuss the following.

3. How would you summarize the Lord's prayer?

4. What does Jesus encourage? What kinds of warning does He give?

5. How has prayer helped you to stand firm in the faith? How will it help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?

6. Conclude by praying together. Pray through a psalm or use one of the prayer acrostics (A.C.T.S. or P.R.A.Y.) to help guide your time. (See *Prayer Resources* on p.76)



Week 6

Battleground of Worship

WEEK 6

Battleground of Worship

Colossians 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Philippians 4:8-9

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

WEEK 6

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **Colossians 3:16-17** and discuss the following.

1. What comes to mind when you think about worship? How does this passage expand our typical view of worship? Explain.
2. What is Paul urging the church to do? How does worship serve as a means to this end?
3. How can we strive together as a church to let the Word of Christ dwell richly within us? What does it look like for us to do this privately, and as families?

Read **Philippians 4:8-9** and discuss the following.

4. What do these things have in common? How can worship help us to think about these things? How can these things help produce worshipful hearts?
5. What unique promise does this passage make?
6. How has worship helped you stand firm in the faith? How will it help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
7. When you think about public, private, and family worship, which of these is least practiced personally? What might be a first step to take toward growing in this particular area?



Family Worship
Luncheon



Week 7

Service

&

Stewardship

Service & Stewardship

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

WEEK 7

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **1st Peter 4:10-11** and discuss the following.

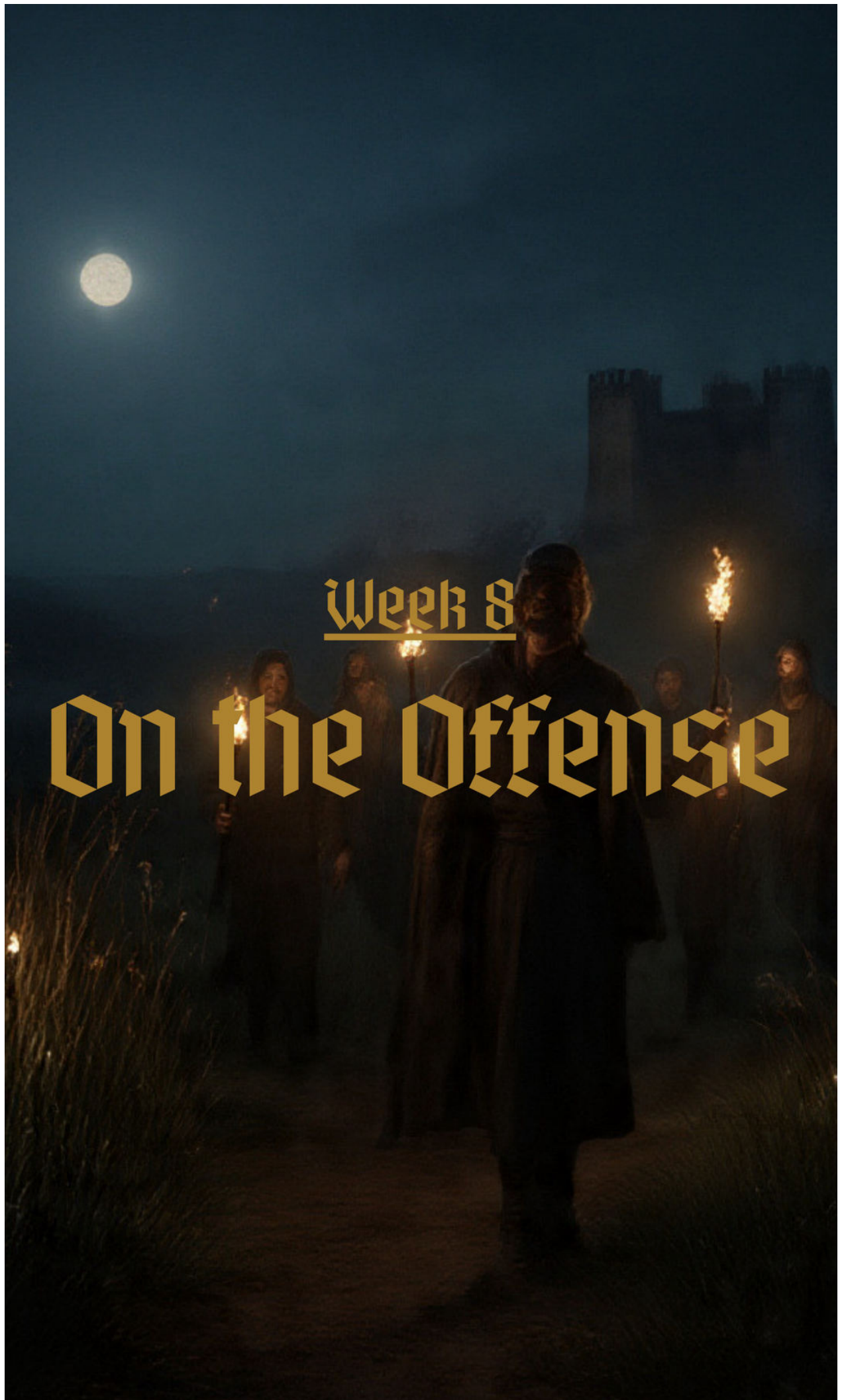
1. According to this passage, what are we to do with our gifts, and for what purpose?
2. Peter divides spiritual gifts into two general categories: speaking and serving. List some of the different spiritual gifts recorded in Scripture (**Romans 12:6-8; 1st Corinthians 12:7-11, 28; Ephesians 4:11-12**). Briefly discuss how these gifts are used to serve those both inside and outside the church. (See *Spiritual Gifts Assessment* on p.84)
3. What gifts have you been given? Are you using them?
4. God also gives us other things that we are to steward for His glory—time, energy, money, resources, connections, and our personality—just to name a few. Share one area that you steward well and one area in which you would like to steward better.

Read **Matthew 6:21** and **2nd Corinthians 9:6-8**. How can these verses serve as a helpful diagnostic to our personal service and stewardship?

5. How will having a biblical framework and understanding of service and stewardship help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?

Make plans to attend our Stewardship Seminar and luncheon next Sunday.





Week 8

On the Offense

WEEK 8

On the Offense

Ephesians 6:18b-20

To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

2nd Timothy 4:1-5

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

WEEK 8

D-Group Discussion Guide

1. When you think of evangelism, what first comes to mind? How do you define it?

Read **2nd Timothy 4:1-5** and discuss the following.

2. What does Paul charge Timothy to do? How is he to do this, and with what kind of attitude?
3. List the motivating factors given for carrying out these responsibilities.
4. What does it mean to “*be ready in season and out of season*”?
5. What does it tangibly look like to “*do the work of an evangelist*”?
6. Consider the “*sword of the Spirit*” (**Ephesians 6:17**) and the various Great Commission passages (**Matthew 28:19-20; John 20:21; Acts 1:8**). How do these display the church as being on the offense? How is the Word a weapon?
7. How often do you share your faith with others? What motivates and encourages your sharing? What keeps you from sharing? How can we begin to grow in this discipline?
8. How will having a biblical understanding of mission and practicing the spiritual discipline of evangelism help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
9. Share a person or place where you will look for an opportunity to communicate your faith this week, then pray together for the Lord’s blessing and guidance.



Week 9

Silence,
Solitude,
& Secrecy

WEEK 9

Silence, Solitude, & Secrecy

Matthew 14:13

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

Mark 1:32-39

That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons.³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door.³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him,³⁷ and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.”³⁸ And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.”³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Luke 4:42-43

And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them,⁴³ but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.”

Colossians 3:2

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

WEEK 9

D-Group Discussion Guide

1. Scripture describes Jesus' life and ministry as being full. He taught and travelled, had long days of serving, and was often followed by needy crowds of people. Nevertheless, Jesus regularly pulled away from the hustling, bustling crowds to be alone with God in prayer (**Matthew 14:13; Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16**). Despite Jesus' example, few believers exercise the disciplines of silence and solitude. Why do you think these practices are so foreign to many people today?
2. For you personally, which is the greater challenge, finding space to be alone or sitting silently in prayerful reflection? Explain.

Read **Colossians 3:1-4** and discuss the following.

3. How might these verses help direct our time of silence and solitude? What should we think about and consider, and why?
4. If you were to plan a time of quiet reflection upon the Lord and His Word, how might you structure your time?
5. In **Matthew 6** Jesus says that whether giving (**v.4**), praying (**v.6**), or fasting (**v.18**), one should remember that the Father sees in secret. Why is secrecy significant? How might this inform your devotional life?
6. How have times of intentional silence and solitude before the Lord helped you stand firm in the faith? How will making space for these disciplines help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
7. Where will you make space this week to spend some time in quiet reflection before the Lord?

A detailed illustration of a medieval dining hall. The room features dark stone walls adorned with various pieces of armor, including helmets, gauntlets, and a shield. Several long wooden benches are arranged around a large, rustic wooden table. The table is set with numerous lit candles in ornate holders, a large metal teapot, and other medieval-style vessels. The lighting is warm and atmospheric, emanating from the candles. The text 'Week 10' is written in a stylized, gothic font and underlined, positioned in the upper center of the image.

Week 10

Fasting & Feasting

WEEK 10

Fasting & Feasting

Matthew 6:16-18

“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you

Matthew 9:14-15

Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?” ¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.

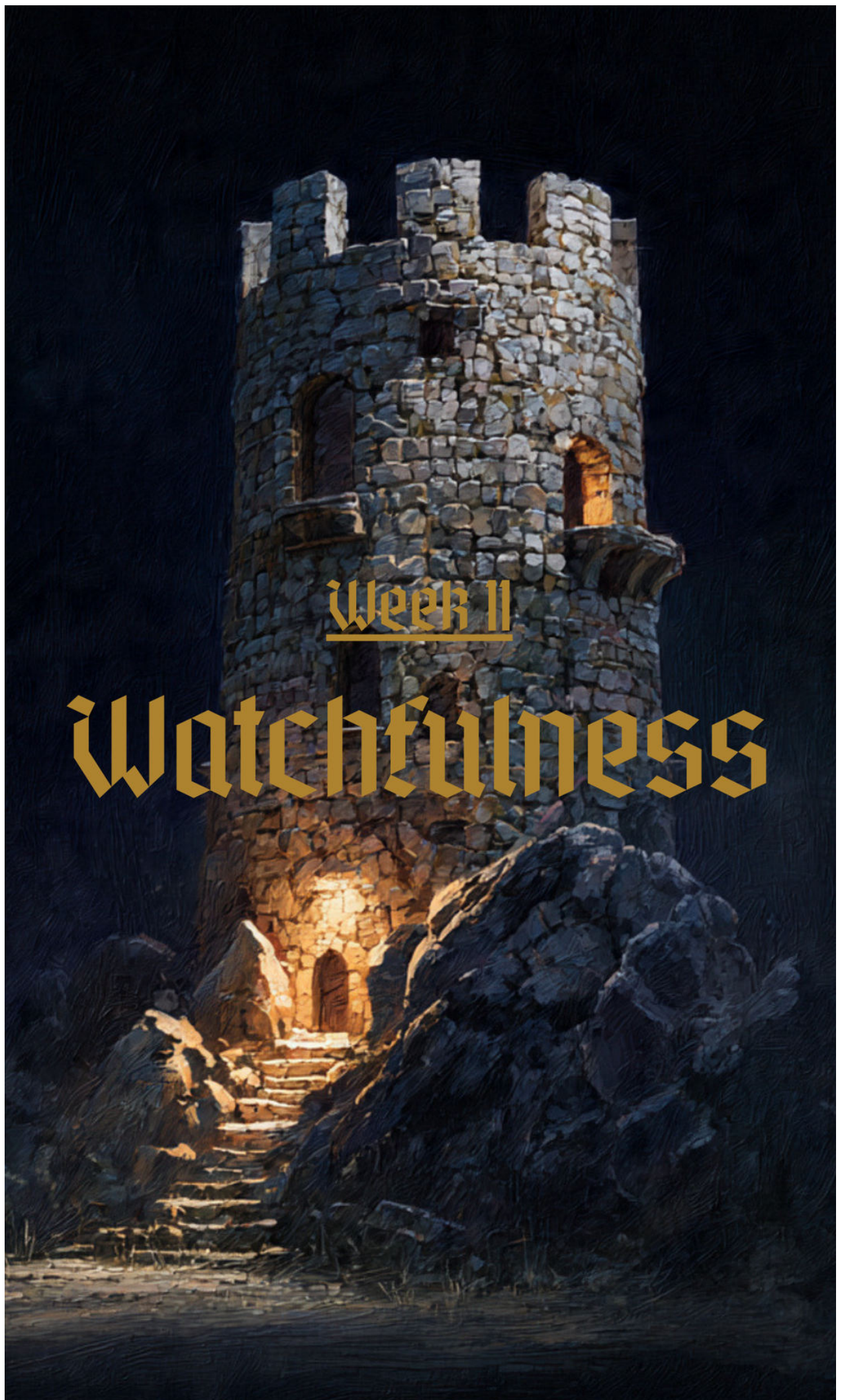
WEEK 10

D-Group Discussion Guide

Read **Matthew 6:16-18** and **Matthew 9:14-15** before discussing the following.

1. What do we learn about fasting from these passages? Why might one fast? Are there any inherent pitfalls or dangers we should be aware of? Explain.
2. Have you ever fasted? If so, for what purpose? What did you learn from your time of fasting?
3. List some additional spiritual purposes for fasting.
4. While biblical fasting involves abstinence from food, what are some other types of fasts we could also do for spiritual purposes? Have you done any of these?
5. How has fasting helped you stand firm in the faith? How will it help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
6. Plan a fast this week. When will you do it? What will you be abstaining from, and for what purpose?

Homework: Schedule a feast of thanksgiving. Whether as a family, a d-group, a fight club, or as a handful of friends, calendar a time to eat a delicious, undistracted meal together with grateful hearts. During this gathering, intentionally take turns counting and sharing how the Lord has blessed you and your family, then collectively give thanks for His past and present provision.



Week 11

Watchfulness

WEEK 11

Watchfulness

Ephesians 6:18b

To that end, keep alert with all perseverance...

1st Timothy 4:16

Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Galatians 6:1

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

“Watchfulness is the whetstone of the spiritual disciplines, the one practice that keeps the other habits sharp.” — Brian Hedges

WEEK 11

D-Group Discussion Guide

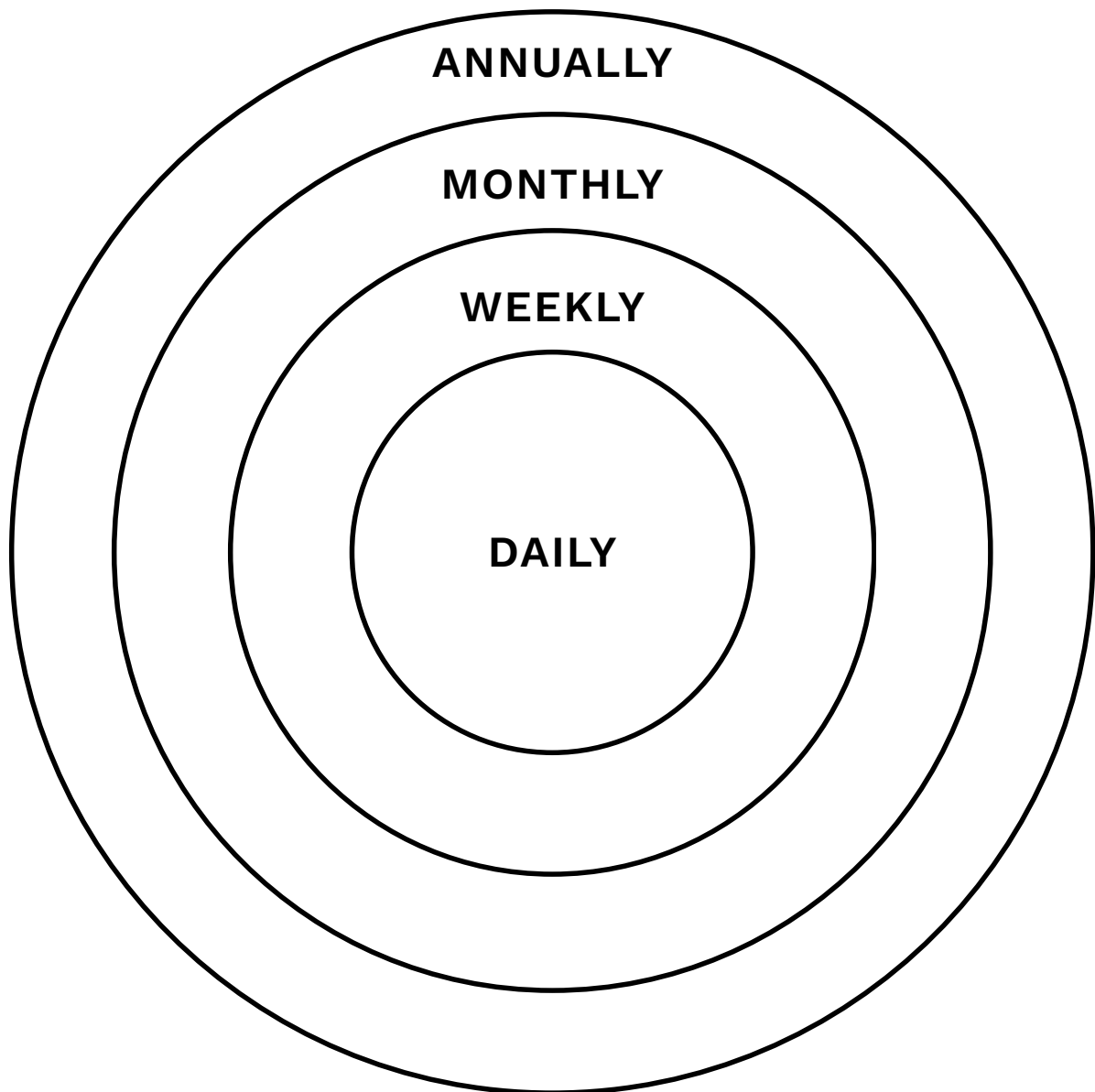
Read the following passages concerning watchfulness, then discuss the questions below: **Matthew 26:41; 1st Corinthians 16:13; Colossians 4:2; 1st Peter 4:7; 2nd John 8; Proverbs 4:23.**

1. What is watchfulness? What does it involve? What are some of its key ingredients? What are we to watch? What exactly are we looking for?
2. In his book on the spiritual discipline of watchfulness, Brian Hedges writes: *“while watchfulness will cost you something, not watching will cost you more.”* What do you think he means? Why is watchfulness necessary?

Read the following passages before discussing the questions below: **1st Timothy 4:16; Hebrews 3:12-13; Hebrews 13:7; Galatians 6:1; Acts 20:28.**

3. How does Scripture describe the mutual watchfulness that is to happen within a community of faith? How can we be watchful for our brothers and sisters in Christ? Do you have friends that would exercise this kind of reciprocity? Why is important that we first succeed at watching our own hearts?
4. How has watchfulness helped you stand firm in the faith? How will it help us to persevere in spiritual warfare?
5. Share one personal highlight or takeaway from this study.

Making a Plan



Consider your regular spiritual habits and practices. Which are most helpful? Where do you need to grow in consistency? What exercises would you like to add, subtract, or modify? Which spiritual disciplines need more time and attention? What is your next step? With whom will you share your plan?

Prayer Resources

A. ADORATION Praise God for who He is.	C. CONFESSION Repent of any sin.	T. THANKSGIVING Praise God for what He has done—express gratitude.	S. SUPPLICATION Ask God for what you need—pray for others.
P. PRAISE Praise God for who He is and all He has done.	R. REPENT Own your sin and seek God's forgiveness.	A. ASK Bring all your requests to God.	Y. YIELD Submit to His Lordship.

Prayer of Examination

Examine yourself. Are you angry or upset? Are you afraid? Anxious? Stressed? Tense? Are you feeling bitter? Are you ashamed? Why are feeling this way? Search your heart and ask the Lord to do the same. Is there anything offensive or grievous that requires repentance? Confess your sins, repent, and ask for forgiveness. Reassure yourself with the truth of the Word. What does Scripture say? How does the gospel address this issue? Remember the finished work of Christ's cross, that His tomb is still empty, and He is faithful and just to forgive us when we confess our sin. What Jesus came to do, He did once for all, to bring us to God. Therefore, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Praying the Psalms

Turn to one of the psalms of the day and pray through it. Simply read it line by line, stopping to pray to God as the words in the text prompt and inspire you.



Prayer Walk

Feast of Thanksgiving

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- *Who will you invite?*
- *Where will you meet?*
- *What will you eat?*
- *Who is bringing what?*
- *Do your guests know what to expect?*

BASIC GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW:

- This is to be an **undistracted** time. All in attendance agree to put their phones away for this meal.
- This is to be an **intentional** time of **reflection** and **appreciation**. All in attendance agree to stay on topic, which means the aim of discussion is to express gratitude for God's good provision. The conversation is to be driven by joy. Planning and scheming about work or school, sharing stresses, complaints, and anxieties are ***not*** on the agenda.
- **Listen** and **share**. This meal will be most enjoyed by those who participate.
- Keep it **simple**. The goal is to **enjoy** one another and **celebrate** God's good gifts. Second servings of food, great stories, and laughter are all highly encouraged.

FOR THE HOST:

Plan to open the evening in prayer or with the reading of a psalm. Make space during the meal for guests to share Scripture that has recently encouraged them. Plan to conclude your feast by singing a hymn or chorus together.

FOR ALL:

Don't let this be your only feast. Afterwards, reflect on the meal. Take note of what worked well, consider what you might do differently, then plan to do one again. Make feasting and celebrating God's grace a regular rhythm.

Fall Events



I'M A CHRISTIAN NOW

Do your children have questions about baptism? Are you interested in learning more about how we partner with parents through our NB Kids' *I'm A Christian Now* class? Click here for more details.



MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

Are in interested in membership? Would you like more information about our church and mission to make disciples for the glory of God? Register for our *Membership Luncheon*. It will be held in the chapel on **Sunday, October 4th** immediately following service. Free lunch and childcare will be provided.



FAMILY WORSHIP LUNCHEON

Register for our *Family Worship Luncheon*. It will be held in the chapel on **Sunday, October 25th** immediately following service. Free lunch and childcare for all registrants.



STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR

Register for our *Stewardship Seminar* hosted by WatersEdge. It will be held in the chapel on **Sunday, November 1st** immediately following service. Free lunch and childcare will be provided.



EVANGELISM TRAINING

Register for our *Evangelism Training*. It will be held in the chapel on **Sunday, November 8th** immediately following service. Free lunch and childcare available.

Save the Dates

VFR BREAKFAST AT 10AM

Saturday, October 3rd

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Return Date for Shoeboxes
Sunday, November 15th

5TH SUNDAY-FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, November 29th

NB KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 13th

FAMILY NIGHT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday, December 16th

Family Worship Guide

Big Idea: We are most strong when we remember the Lord is the source of our strength.

“PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD.”

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

HELMET
OF
SALVATION



BREASTPLATE
OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS



BELT OF
TRUTH



FEET PREPARED WITH THE
GOSPEL OF PEACE



SHIELD
OF FAITH



SWORD
OF THE
SPIRIT

Read **Ephesians 6:10-18** and *discuss* each piece of the armor of God.

1. In verse 10 we learn there is a source of power. Who are we to rely on for strength?
2. Why do we need to put on the whole armor of God? If the devil has schemes against us, how will the armor of God protect us?

Sing and do the motions to “I’m in the Lord’s Army.”

Pray together for one another and for our missionaries serving in areas where people have never heard the good news of Jesus. Ask for their protection, for boldness, and for the Lord to give them the necessary strength to stand firm in the faith.

Practice Praying Together

Read and discuss the following: **Romans 12:12; 1st Thessalonians 5:17; Philippians 4:6; 1st Timothy 2:1; James 5:13; and Matthew 6:9-13.**

1. When should we pray?
2. How should we pray?
3. What are some things we should pray about?

Pray together. Use the A.C.T.S. acrostic to guide your prayers.

A. ADORATION Praise God for who He is.	C. CONFESSION Repent of any sin.	T. THANKSGIVING Praise God for what He has done—express gratitude.	S. SUPPLICATION Ask God for what you need—pray for others.
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Sing: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
(Joseph M. Scriven, 1855)

Verse 1

*What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!*

Verse 2

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!*

Practice Family Worship

Read and discuss **Psalm 139**.

1. What does this psalm teach us about God?
2. What does it say about us and how God relates to us?

Pray together. Thinking about the above passage, give everyone a chance to fill in the blank:

“God you are _____.”

(i.e.—“God you are strong.” “God you are wise.” etc.)

Then have someone offer up a prayer for the whole family.

Sing as a family—“My God Is So Big”... NOTE: It could be fun to teach your kids the motions that accompany this song, if they don’t already know it. Also, older kids may enjoy this modern version by CityAlight.



CityAlight

“They who pray in the family, do well. They who read and pray, do better. But they who sing, and read, and pray, do best of all.” — Matthew Henry

Resources

Spiritual Warfare

Fighting Satan by Joel Beeke

Loved Indeed by Dan Cruver

Precious Remedies against Satan's Devices by Thomas Brooks

Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan

The Whole Armor of God by Iain M. Duguid

Not Against Flesh and Blood by Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Spiritual Disciplines

Family Worship by Joel Beeke

Recapturing the Wonder by Mike Cospers

Watchfulness by Brian G. Hedges

Habits of Grace by David Mathis

Enjoying your Prayer Life by Michael Reeves

Praying the Bible by Donald Whitney

Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald Whitney

Gospel Wakefulness by Jared Wilson



Spiritual Gifts Survey

ADDITIONAL FAMILY RESOURCES

Apps:



The Parent Cue App from Orange offers a great article on creating a Family Rhythm that could help foster a time for Family Worship.



The New City Catechism App pairs each question and answer with a Scripture reading from the ESV, a short prayer, and a devotional commentary. The app also includes kid-friendly songs designed to help children memorize the entire catechism.



Advent

— 2026 —

Christmas according to John





**He who would have peace must always
be prepared for war. – J.C. Ryle**