WEEK OF

FEBRUARY 28, 2010

SMALL GROUP

DISCUSSION

TOPIC:

WAR OF THE WORLDS VII:
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!

LESSON IN A LINE:

The positive effectiveness, usefulness and power of the 'whole armour of God' come to us through persistent prayer.

Points to Make

- In ancient times, countries, kings and people looked to gods of war to help them through their battles.
- When Israel faced various battles, they would pray, fast, sacrifice and seek a word from the Lord in order to know whether or not they should go to war.
- The same is true for us today. Before, during and after any spiritual warfare that we engage in, WE MUST PRAY!
- A soldier that is fully armed does not necessarily escape death. It is the Spirit of God that quickens and empowers the Christian soldier, and this empowerment comes through prayer.
- Jesus had all that it took to be the saviour of the world – divine/human nature and a sinless life. Yet when the time came for Him to go into action, He prayed for three hours and had to be strengthened by an angel to be able to accomplish the task (Luke 22:39-46).
- We need to pray in the Spirit and allow Him to intercede *through* us and *for* us (Romans 8:26-27; Jude 20).
- As we work, watch, and pray, we need to be alert to what's happening in the world around us. We need to be aware of the activities of the enemy of our souls and counteract his attacks with prayer. As we pray, we should not only pray defensive prayers, but we also need to use the sword of the Spirit—the Word of God—to pray "attack prayers" against the kingdom of darkness (Nehemiah 4:9; Mark 14:38).

***Key Scriptures*:**
Ephesians 6:18; Job 42:10; Luke 22:39-46; Rom. 8:26-27; 1 Timothy 2:1; Philippians 4:6; Colossians 4:2; Jude 20

- We are in need of people who will engage in secret prayers, public prayers, or spontaneous prayers; prayers of thanksgiving, of confession, of intercession, of supplication; prayers for the saints; prayers for our families; prayers for the government. We need people who will pray prayers to determine the perfect will of God for our lives, our church, our nation.
- Christian soldier, keep praying for God to give you the power to fight the good fight of faith.

Discussion Tools

- Examine your daily life. Do you believe that you pray enough? Is there such a thing as enough prayer?
- A soldier does not enter into a battle without being properly equipped. Consider some "battles" you have engaged in praying beforehand and without praying beforehand. What were the results?
- We should not only pray defensive prayers, but also "attack prayers"—discuss.
- Do you believe that the strength of a church is determined by the prayer life of its members? Why or why not?
- Discuss ways in which one can strengthen their prayer life.

Prayer Time

Lord, teach me to pray. Help me to come to you at all times so that I may be in your perfect will.

ICE-BREAKER: In I Kings 12, a young king rejected the advice of older, wiser men and took the advice of his friends, with disastrous results. Share a time when you took or rejected good advice. What was the result?

NOTES