



Empowering People to Change the World

**The Invisible War:
The War Room**

Steve Holt

The Road Declaration

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Ephesians 6:18-24

Verse 18

“Prayer in the Spirit”

- There is a prayer “in the Spirit” that is different than rote memorized prayers or “religiously-worded prayers” that have no substantive faith, but sound good.
 - Many people have developed “church prayers” meant for the listener more than the Lord.
 - These elaborate prayers never get higher than the ceiling.
- Paul is speaking of “in the Spirit” prayer. This is prayer led by, empowered by, and faith-driven from the Holy Spirit.
- This is war room prayer! Quite frankly it is the only kind that moves mountains!
- “Supplication” means asking, seeking, knocking.
- Jesus described prayer as “asking and receiving.”

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Matthew 7:7-11)

- Prayer, as Jesus is describing it, is a war room. This is the place God calls the Church to be, a “house of prayer.”

- Prayer is crying out to God to do something! To move on our behalf!
- But it's not primarily praying in our own power, though it starts there. But it must move into prayer in the Spirit; with the Spirit leading and empowering us.

The War Room Progression:

Desire to Pray → Discipline to Pray → Delight in Prayer

“Being watchful to this end”

- This is a part of our prayer life; not quitting, but continually looking and watching for God to answer our prayers.
- It is the perseverance element that can be difficult!
- Jesus explains,

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’”

Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:1-8)

Let's exegete what Jesus is explaining to us:

1. Jesus is telling us to “not lose heart,” but to keep praying. In other words, prayer is the anecdote to not losing heart.

2. He uses a widow as the protagonist. A widow in the time of Jesus was the lowest person in a town. She had no husband, no advocate, and no means of paying for a judge.
3. The judge doesn't fear God or any man. Again, the contrast is important. This is an impossible situation naturally.
4. But it's this woman's continual coming, crying out day and night, that moves the judge to act.
 - Ex. Liz - seven years praying for Ruth.
 - Ex. We are praying for a Kingdom of God revolution in our day!

Verses 19-20

“That I may open my mouth boldly”

- Bold prayer leads to bold action! If our prayers don't move us into some kind of action, then we really don't believe what we're praying about.
- We are warring on behalf of people! That's what Paul is asking from the saints in Ephesus—to pray for him to be bold to make known the Gospel of Christ.

(Acts 4:23-31) The New Testament War Room

Five Qualities of a War Room

- 1. Praying in Unity (verses 23-24)**
- 2. Praying Scripture (verses 25-26)**
- 3. Praying for Boldness (verses 27-29)**
- 4. Praying for Miracles (verse 30)**
- 5. Praying that Leads to Action (verse 31)**