

Week 24 - Applying the Word to Our Daily Lives

Sunday

Scripture Reading: Eph. 5:20–6:24

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.” (Eph. 6:17-18)

CONCLUDING PRACTICES IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

At the end of the book of Ephesians, Paul highlights the practice of the Word in the lives of the believers: “Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God” (5:20-21). If each one of us considers the other superior, we will have no problems in the church. Let us learn to submit to one another.

In the following verse, Paul addresses married life: “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord” (v. 22). After reading this, some sisters may say, “If my husband were like that other brother, I would submit to him.” The verse, however, says “submit to your own husbands.” God will surely use your spouse to work His grace and glory into you. If the Lord has given you a spouse, live a good and peaceful life together. Regardless of who is right or wrong, just ask forgiveness. Also, do not make empty promises, saying that you will change; instead say, “I want to lay hold of God’s grace and His truth in Jesus. I believe that God’s glory will change me.”

In chapter 6, Paul offers a word for children, encouraging them to honor their parents in order to live a long life (vv. 1-3). Regardless of the condition of your parents, you must honor them. As for the parents, Paul says, “Do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (v. 4). Do not provoke your children, but raise them in the Lord’s discipline.

The Lord wants to deal with every aspect of our lives, including the relationship between employer and employee: “Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men”

(Eph. 6:5-7). We should never deceive our employers, only working when he is around. Remember that we are working for the Lord.

Paul also has a word for the employers: “And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him” (Eph. 6:9). Sometimes it is especially difficult to employ brothers, as they may expect some kind of special treatment.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Eph. 6:10-12). Our battle is not against our brethren, parents, neighbors or spouse, but against spiritual powers and principalities.

As we fight, we need to pay special attention to the Word and prayer: “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints” (Eph. 6:17-18). We must learn to pray, for the battle we are waging is spiritual and not of this earth. The powers of darkness want to halt our spiritual progress and the spread of the gospel of God.

May the Lord give us grace to practice the rich words found in the book of Ephesians. It is not enough to have the revelation of its first three chapters, yet disregard its practice, which is for the building up of the body of Christ. As His collective bride and warrior, the Lord is making us holy and without blemish, and equipping us to fight the powers of darkness for the sake of His interests and kingdom. Let us preach the gospel and help others carry out God’s eternal will! Hallelujah!

Key Point:

Walking in spirit daily.

Your Key Point:

Question:

How much have you been interceding for others?