**The Prayer Series: wk 5 – Lord’s Prayer – Protection**

**Greatest gift, privilege, & most important thing for a follower of Jesus**

**Thousands of books – devotionals – and bible studies.**

**We’ve turned it into formulas, forms, and methods.**

**Big Idea: Prayer is not necessarily something we do – it is more about someone we are with. It is about being and talking with God.**

**It is not just a position, posture or point in time – it is a place.**

**It is realizing and finding our self in the presence of God.**

**Learning to talk and listen. Knowing that you are with the creator of all things – as a son / daughter / friend**

**Jesus then gives most famous prayer on the planet - the Lord’s Prayer.**

**Matthew 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: “‘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 today 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 the evil one.’ *(For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.)* (It’s not an incantation – good luck – or a penance)**

**The Lord’s prayer is less formula and more an outline (See card)**

**It’s an acknowledge of the supremacy of God – our dependency on God – and the power of God.**

**1. Praise “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”**

**2. Purpose “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”**

**3. Provision**

* **Practical needs – “Give us today our daily bread”**
* **Spiritual needs – “And forgive us our sins”**
* **Relational needs – “as we also have forgiven our debtors”**

**4. Protection “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”**

**5. Praise “For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever”**

**Today the final two - a prayer of protection.**

**Many of us this year has looked like this for us (video) a year of tremendous trials and difficulties. (Give examples)**

**Here is why… Sometimes bad things happen… even to good people.**

**This is the result of living in a fallen world - full of fallen lives…**

**But there is another reason too… The red phone!**

**Ephesians 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, (Life Teams this week) so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.**

**Understanding The War – 6 things you need to know**

**Have you ever heard of Spiritual Warfare?**

**Today Jesus teaches us to pray in this area. Mathew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’**

1. **There is more to life than what you see – we are not alone**

**2 Kings 6:15 (fearful their little army would lose against the enemy's attack) When the servant of the man of God (Elisha) got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. 16 “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” 17 And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (He saw the spirit realm - God's army)**

**God gave him a moment - a glimpse – of the spirit world**

1. **There is a real war**

**Matthew 6:13 - “And lead us not into temptation…”**

**There is another world - one we cannot see - a spirit world. There is war going on right now - that is invisible. Two Kingdoms - made up of spirit beings.**

**The war is waged in our mind and heart – with temptations and attacks.**

**Do you have spiritual eyes to see?**

**Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

**May seem confusing - there's is a war not fought w/ guns & bombs, or nunchuks & slingshots**

**This battle is not a co-worker, your dad, boss, kid at school, it’s not costumes and candy, the democrats or republicans, the president or a govt - the war is not w/ Hollywood, TV, celebrities or music stars.**

**Our struggle - the war we are in, is w/ invisible spiritual beings**

**I am not talking about aliens... but spirit beings. What you see is not all there is. What we don't see is as real as what we see.**

**There is a whole other world - look around... what do you see?**

**Matthew 6:13 - “deliver us from the evil one” (some trans. “from evil”)**

1. **There is a real enemy**

**The Bible calls him Satan, devil, serpent, great dragon, deceiver, murderer, accuser, adversary, the thief, lawless one, rebellious one, the enemy of our soul – he is a created being – once an angel…**

**Jesus acknowledges the reality of the Devil – He knows who he is… Jesus created him (Satan is not Jesus brother - LDS)**

**John 10:10 - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**

**Wake up! Satan has a plot for you and your family!!!!**

**Realize – Jesus has a plan for you!**

**1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (don’t give in – stand firm – you’re not alone!)**

**Satan is active and real - What it does not mean?**

1. **It does not mean the devil is in everything that's bad**

**Bible tells us evil comes from 3 places: The Flesh (our own evil desires) / The World (living in a fallen world) / The Devil**

1. **It does not mean the devil is in every sickness or disease**

**Mental disorders and diseases are not necessarily the devil**

**Many Christians are practicing Satanists and Pagans, and go to church every week – maybe even some of you.**

* **Paganism – Do as thou will, harm none. (explain)**
* **Satanism – Do as thou will, that is the whole of the law**

**Knowing there is a real enemy, we are to pray– “they will be done”.**

**But many do as they will… that is defined as Satanism and paganism.**

**Well that’s harsh!!! Call it what you want – but, that is what some of you do – and it’s just what the evil one wants.**

1. **Prayer is our weapon of war**

**Matthew 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray…”**

**Prayer is a privilege, our tool – our weapon.**

**2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.**

**When the enemy hits hard – when the attack in on – when you are beat and bloody – when you’re starring down temptation – when that habit is looking you square in the eyes – when sickness…**

**But never forget - Prayer is never meant to substitute for obedience!**

1. **God alone can beat the enemy**

**Matthew 6:9,13 - “Our Father in Heaven… deliver us…”**

**God and God alone… Satan (fallen angelic spirit) has some power - but our God is greater!**

**Know this – You cannot win on your own**

**You cannot win over the enemy without Jesus. Without him you will lose the war. With him you have already won.**

**Look back at the verse we started with - Paul talking about the invisible war.**

**Eph 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (Not strong in yourself - but God's power) 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s** **schemes.**

**Scary movies - evil usually wins or is defeated by bravery, love, or goodness... but those things cannot beat the enemy (not Allah, Buddha, it’s not meditation, or no amount of positive thoughts...)**

**Only Jesus can defeat the enemy - If you are not a Christian – if you are not in His family - you should be concerned...**

1. **The war has already been won –**

***Matt 6:13 (For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.)***

**Side bar: Why is this not in all Bibles translations? Not all ancient manuscripts have it - oldest ones don’t, but majority of them do have it. So – it depends of the text used to translate.**

**It definitely and accurately represents the heart of scripture.**

**Point is – We end with Praise because the war has already been won!!!!**

**Know This – You do not fight for victory; you fight from victory!**

**If you are a follower of Jesus - you have no need to be afraid of the demonic realm. You can with boldness know this - Jesus has won!**

**We are not fighting to win - we are enforcing the victory Jesus secured on the cross – when he crushed the head of the serpent!**

**Good news - God is almighty, Jesus has already won. Satan is in no way equal to God. He is a created being with very limited power.**

**Bad news - The enemy is not giving up quietly. And if you are a follower of Jesus - the enemy has you in his sights. He is invisible, he is evil, he hates you - and he is on the attack.**

**If you are a Christian - you're not alone - you are not losing - you have won - Jesus is victor and Satan is defeated.**

**That rabid dog will be put down - but not without a fight.**

**But know this - 1 John 4:4 You, dear children, (the family of God through Jesus) are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.**

**2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us (his followers) a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.**

**Follower of Jesus be fearless... those without Jesus be afraid.**

**Today – you can say goodbye to fear – by surrendering your life to Jesus will and His authority.**

**Know This: Your prayers are more powerful than you know!**

**What you think is just hitting the ceiling is reaching the throne of God. And God is working and moving to accomplish His will.**

**Let’s go back that spiritual war passage of the Apostle Paul’s - Ephesians 6:13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, (be protected) so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, (held up by the truth of God's power and character) with the breastplate of righteousness in place, (Righteous in Jesus alone - my heart and soul is protected) 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. (my feet are ready to go where God leads me - I do not need to be afraid) 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. (faith in God shields me from the enemy's attacks and accusations) 17 Take the helmet of salvation (my mind / thoughts - the lies that tell me I am lost - God says I am saved) and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (offensive weapon - this is what God says take that devil)**

**What are we supposed to put on? Truth, righteousness, readiness, faith, salvation, the word of God, prayer. All given to those who are Christians by God himself. Tell your neighbor, “Don't fight naked!”**

**6:18 And pray in the Spirit (lead of God) 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.**

**If you feel like you are under attack - that might be God giving you spiritual eyes. Pray - get on your knees - call out to God.**

**The thoughts in my head - things when I close my eyes - develop a life of intercession - quick to pray!**

**6:19 Pray also for me, (don’t forget to pray for your church leaders) that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.**

**Paul prayed and asks us to pray - be fearless!**

**We have already won through Jesus!!!!**

**We are going to take some time to pray:**

**…And lead us not into temptation…**

**Pray – God lead me and give me strength to stand strong in the face temptation.**

**…but deliver us from the evil one…**

**Pray – God by your power and authority we stand against the enemy!**

**Pray for yourself, family, spouse, children, friends church – Satan hands off! Health, finances, relationships.**

**Pray for those under attack!**

***For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**Pray – Lift up the name of Jesus – God this is for your glory!**

**Thank God and praise Him for His goodness and for hearing and answering prayer.**

**Pray for those under attack!**