# Introduction for Ephesians 6:5-9

Work. We do it all the time. Paul helps us understand our role at work. Let the truth of these verses impact your everyday life.

## **Ephesians 6**

- 5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ.
- 6 Work hard, but not just to please your masters when they are watching. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart.
- 7 Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.
- 8 Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free.
- 9 And in the same way, you masters must treat your slaves right. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same master in heaven, and he has no favorites.

## Here are some things that I see in these verses:

- verse 5 My attitude in the workplace reflects my attitude toward Christ. That's sobering, yet powerful.
- verse 6 Working with integrity reflects God's will and demonstrates a godly heart.
- verse 7 & 8 My real boss is the Lord and He will reward me.
- verse 9 When I am the one in charge, I must be very careful to treat each person under me with care. This is how God treats me.

SO...WHAT do you see?

NOW ... WHAT does God want you to be or do?

Your Response...WHAT will you say to God today?

My prayer...

"My dear Father, Thank You for giving me practical principles to guide my life. Help me realize that the way I work reflects the attitude of my heart. Help me conduct myself as Your child and ambassador. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

# Introduction for Ephesians 6:10-17

Life is a battle. We have a very real opponent—the devil—and a very specific strategy for winning the war against him! Even though we often cannot see our adversary, he is there. Look for ways to find out how God wants us to deal with our greatest enemy. Keep your eyes open.

## **Ephesians 6**

10 A final word: Be strong with the Lord's mighty power.

- 11 Put on all God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil.
- 12 For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms.
- 13 Use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm.
- 14 Stand your ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness.
- 15 For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News, so that you will be fully prepared.
- 16 In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan.
- 17 Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

## Here are some things that I see in these verses:

- verse verse 10 My strength is in the Lord.
- verse 11 My opponent is the devil. My protection is the Lord.
- verse 12 A spiritual battle is raging around me.
- verse 13 God calls me to stand strong in Him.
- verse 14 to 17 The battle belongs to God. In Him, I am fully equipped.

SO...WHAT do you see?

NOW ... WHAT does God want you to be or do?

Your Response...WHAT will you say to God today?

My prayer...

"Father, thank You for warning me that life will not be easy. I also thank You that You have given me a clear battle plan. You fight for me. Oh, thank You Lord. Please help me place all my trust in You today. Amen."

# **Introduction for Ephesians 6:18-24**

Did you ever think that you could talk directly to God? You can. Praying to God is a great privilege that you have as a follower of Jesus.

## **Ephesians 6**

- 18 Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.
- 19 And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words as I boldly explain God's secret plan that the Good News is for the Gentiles, too.
- 20 I am in chains now for preaching this message as God's ambassador. But pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.
- 21 Tychicus, a much loved brother and faithful helper in the Lord's work, will tell you all about how I am getting along.
- 22 I am sending him to you for just this purpose. He will let you know how we are, and he will encourage you.
- 23 May God give you peace, dear brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 24 May God's grace be upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

#### Here are some things that I see in these verses:

- verse 18 I can pray any time, any where.
- verse 19 Paul asked his friends to pray for him.
- $\bullet$  verse 20 I can pray for my spiritual leaders to be fearless and courageous.
- verse 22 I need to encourage others.

SO...WHAT do you see?

NOW ... WHAT does God want you to be or do?

Your Response...WHAT will you say to God today?

My prayer...

"Father, thank You that I can talk to You anytime about anything, and You always hear me with the intention of meeting my needs. Thank You for this book of Ephesians. Thank You for what I have learned.
I thank You again for saving me and sealing me by Your Spirit. I don't deserve to be Your child — but You have adopted me through Your son, Jesus Christ. Please make me thirsty and hungry for more of You, and for more of Your Word. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

A PERSONAL NOTE TO YOU—As you have just learned, Paul asked his friends to pray for him. Would you take the time to pray for me right now? Please pray that I will share the Gospel throughout the world without fear. Pray that I will use God's gifts in accordance with His will. Pray that I will be courageous, holy, humble, faithful, and pure.

# ongratulations, you did it!

Thank you for studying Ephesians with me. You now know the secret of your new life in Christ...it's the Word of God! When you are faced with more pressure and stress than you can handle, take in more of God's Word. When difficulty faces you, read more of the Word. When uninvited pain moves into your life, overcome it with the Word of God!

Find a church that teaches the Word of God clearly. Support it with your time, talents, and money. Make God's priorities your priorities and He will bless and direct your every step.

As you do this, I pray God will do for you more than you could ever ask or think.

Mike Silva

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