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Sermon Notes

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Prayer for the Bold Proclamation of the Gospel

Ephesians 6:19-20

For the last two weeks, we have looked at the final section of Paul's teaching on spiritual warfare, as he culminates it in his command to pray in the Spirit

We have seen that the issue of SPIRITUAL WARFARE is real...

Ephesians 6:10-13 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, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

We have invisible, powerful enemies... Satan and his demonic powerful underlings, the "rulers, authorities, powers of this present darkness... spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms..." This is our warfare... our WRESTLING... our STRUGGLE....

Paul gives three basic commands about this warfare: 1) be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power; 2) put on the full armor of God; 3) stand firm in the day of evil... in the day of battle... STAND

We spent three weeks looking at each of the elements of the "full armor of God": the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, and the feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace; the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

We then looked for two weeks at the command to "pray in the Spirit":

Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

We saw that praying "in the Spirit" means in some sense to be caught up by the Spirit into the heavenly realms... to be empowered by the Spirit so that we pray for the RIGHT THINGS in the RIGHT POWER... the RIGHT MANNER...

Now I want to finish our study in the Book of Ephesians by zeroing in on Paul's request for prayer for himself... PRAYER FOR THE BOLD PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL:

Ephesians 6:19-20 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, 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.

No one in history was so bold in evangelism and missions as the Apostle Paul!! As we shall see, Paul was beaten again and again, imprisoned again and again, caused multiple riots, had passionately committed enemies who even went to the lengths of fasting until they could kill him... in the end, he WAS killed for the gospel... and YET he felt intense need for prayer for evangelistic boldness.

Now if HE needed prayer for boldness in evangelism, how much more do WE??

I. Prayer and Evangelism Are Inseparable

A. If Paul Needed Prayer, How Much More Do We?

1. Paul was consistently seeking prayer from the churches
2. Especially seeking prayer for gospel advance

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. ² And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith.

Romans 15:15-16 I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known

Romans 15:24 I hope to visit you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey to Spain...

Romans 15:30-31 I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. ³¹ Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there

3. Paul was very well aware that the gospel advance to the Gentiles was BITTERLY OPPOSED by Satan and his demons

4. He was acutely aware of his need for prayer
5. So he regularly solicited prayer from many churches for the success of his gospel preaching ministry...
6. But Paul was the boldest, most articulate, best prepared, most faithful man who ever preached the gospel in the whole history of the Church!
7. IF PAUL NEEDED PRAYER for evangelistic zeal, power, and fruit, how much more do we???

B. Prayer and Gospel Advance Have Always Gone Together

1. Acts 1-2: whole church united, waiting for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be poured out from on high; when the day of Pentecost came, the Spirit was poured out in power and the church was enabled to speak God's Word in other languages... this was to accelerate the spread of the gospel; the apostles preached the gospel clearly and everyone heard them speaking in their own native tongues.... 3000 came to faith in Christ that day and were baptized
2. Acts 4: Peter and John, after being arrested for healing a lame man and preaching the gospel, were warned by the Jewish Council not to speak or preach at all in the name of Jesus; they released them, and Peter and John gathered the whole church together to PRAY... they did not pray for protection by for BOLDNESS in preaching the gospel
3. Acts 10: Peter was praying and had a vision of a sheet with unclean animals; God prepared Peter to go into the house of a Gentile man and preach the gospel to him... this was the start of the explosive growth of the church among Gentiles that has continued to this day!!
4. Acts 13: the church at Antioch was fasting and praying; the Holy Spirit said "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." The church set them apart with fasting and prayer... and they were effectively the first missionaries sent out, spreading the gospel all over the Gentile world
5. Acts 16: While Paul was praying, he had a vision of a man from Macedonia saying "Come over and help us!" This was direct guidance from the Holy Spirit to spread the gospel WESTWARD toward Europe rather than Eastward toward Asia
6. After the New Testament era ended, the gospel advance continued to be saturated in prayer...
 - a. Irish missionaries, burning with zeal, poured out from Iona under the leadership of Columba, and they spread the gospel

Irish (Celtic) traveling evangelist Columba: A.D. 563, he and 12 companions settled on small island of Iona near Scotland – a small, bleak, foggy, barren island, battered year-round by pounding waves of the sea... Iona became the center of Celtic Christianity, from where missionaries were dispatched to convert Scotland, and northern England

Columba himself led by example... travelled to northern Scotland to evangelize the fierce Picts in the Scottish highlands; King Brude, king of the northern Picts, originally refused to allow Columba to enter the gates of his city... Columba stayed outside the gates, praying night and day until at last King Brude relented... eventually King Brude and many Picts came to faith in Christ through Columba

- George Whitefield and the First Great Awakening

In 1738, the 24 year old George Whitefield returned from a successful preaching tour in America. On December 8, he went to a Christian meeting in Fetter Lane, and spent time in prayer with the believers there, for the spread of the gospel in England. They prayed again seventeen days later on Christmas Day, praying till four in the morning with over three hundred believers for the success of the preaching of the gospel. John and Charles Wesley were also involved. But the greatest of these prayer meetings happened on New Year's Day, 1739. As they prayed till three in the morning, suddenly the Holy Spirit was poured out on the group so astonishingly that everyone there praying fell on the ground at the same time, then cried out with one voice, "We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord."

For days afterward, Whitefield wrote in his journal:

'Sometimes whole nights were spent in prayer. Often have we been filled as with new wine. And often have we seen them overwhelmed with the divine presence and crying out, 'Will God indeed dwell with men upon earth? How dreadful is this place! This is none other than the house of God and the gate of heaven!'

After that series of extraordinary prayer meetings, one of the greatest revivals in church history spread throughout England and the thirteen colonies of America, a revival known as the First Great Awakening... bringing tens of thousands to genuine faith in Christ

- The Haystack Prayer Meeting

August, 1806, western Massachusetts, a sudden thunderstorm drove five students from nearby Williams college to seek refuge under a haystack, near a lean-to. Samuel Mills was among them. They began discussing the

geography lecture they had just heard, and it led them to pray for the people of Asia to come to faith in Christ. God led them powerfully to become the answers to their own prayers. They soon founded the first American board of foreign missions, and one of their students was Adoniram Judson. He and his wife became the first American foreign missionaries ever, serving in Burma. Luther Rice came back to help found the first Baptist missions agency, which was the roots of the SBC and IMB today. Samuel Mills gave his life to recruiting foreign missionaries. The Haystack Prayer meeting has born almost incalculable fruit for over two hundred years.

SO MANY CLEAR EXAMPLES of the link between fervent prayer and evangelistic movement... missionary advance

C. FBC: We Need to Pray for Evangelistic Fruit!

1. For years, we have recognized that FBC has amazing opportunities to spread the gospel in this BOOMING area known as the Triangle
2. Thousands and thousands of people are streaming in here from all over the country, indeed all over the world
3. There are thousands of college students in major universities right near our church... Duke, NC State, UNC, Central, Durham Tech... many of those students are LOST
4. We see refugees here, Gujarati in Morristown, undocumented aliens, and many others coming to live here... GREAT OPPORTUNITY
5. We have great medical care here, and medical professionals and patients alike come here... and they need the gospel
6. We are in an urban center, with opportunities to minister to the urban poor
7. But we see so little evangelistic fruit here... so few baptisms... so few even accounts of evangelistic encounters...
8. Sunday evening service at Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, DC, so many evangelistic opportunities church members are asking prayer for... a coworker, a neighbor, a barista at a coffee shop, a clerk at the Senate building, a total stranger who was just passing by... it is a CULTURE of evangelism
9. I don't think we believe the facts of the gospel any less than they do... I think all of you know that people have to hear and believe the gospel in order to be saved; we know the gospel of Jesus Christ is beautiful and true and powerful

10. SO WHY DON'T WE SHARE IT MORE??? I can only conclude that Satan has so intimidated us by the FEAR OF MAN that we have become meek and fearful and effectively muzzled... we are fruitless so often

Proverbs 29:25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.

1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear

2 Timothy 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

11. I believe the only answer must be fervent PRAYER

II. The Mystery of the Gospel

A. Start with the Message... what Paul called the "Mystery of the Gospel"

Ephesians 6:19-20 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, 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.

1. What does Paul mean by "mystery"... it is a theological word meaning something hidden in God but now revealed by the Holy Spirit
2. Nothing anyone could have figured out in the intelligence of their minds
3. Other than Romans, no book traces out the truth of the gospel better than Ephesians

Ephesians 1:

Ephesians 1:3-7 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

So, before the foundation of the world, God chose people to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ... he chose us to end up in heaven, "holy and blameless in his sight" ... he LOVED us in Christ and PREDESTINED US to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ...

He did all this for the PRAISE OF HIS GLORIOUS GRACE... that he would get the full credit for our salvation

He gave Christ as the atonement for our sins... redemption through his BLOOD;
this is the full forgiveness of our sins

The final purpose of all this was to bring everything in heaven and on earth
together under one head, Christ... the full unity of the universe after sin
has been atoned for and removed

This book also reveals that individual people are predestined to be saved by the
verbal proclamation of the gospel message:

Ephesians 1:11-14 *In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession-- to the praise of his glory.*

By HEARING the word of truth, the gospel of salvation, and by BELIEVING
(having faith in Christ), we were marked in Christ with the seal of the
Holy Spirit... guaranteeing our final salvation

In Ephesians 2:1-3, we learn that we began enslaved in Satan's dark kingdom:

Ephesians 2:1-3 *As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.*

This highlights the incredible grace of God in our lives:

Ephesians 2:4-9 *But God, because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-- it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.*

This salvation by grace through faith in Christ apart from works IS THE
MYSTERY that we would never have known unless someone told us

The gospel advance happens as **FORCEFUL ACT OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE...**
Satan will not give up his possessions without a fight

THIS is the mystery of the gospel as Paul taught it here in Ephesians

This is what Paul needed prayer in order to preach

And if he needed it, so do we!!!

So... what did Paul pray for?

III. Praying for Frequent Opportunities

Ephesians 6:19-20 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, 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.

A. Paul's First Request Implied: LOTS of Opportunities

1. "whenever I open my mouth..."
2. Implication: Paul wanted to speak to ANYONE and EVERYONE about this gospel message
3. He wanted to sow the seed of the Word as WIDELY as possible

B. Paul was an Ambassador in Chains

1. Powerful image... he was the representative of another country, another Kingdom, another King
2. The role of an ambassador is to speak authoritative words from the King you are representing

IV. Praying for Spirit-Given Words

A. Need for WORDS...

Ephesians 6:19 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel

1. Salvation comes to lost people when they hear the WORDS of the gospel

Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit

2. This is taught in many places...but especially HERE:

ESV Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

3. There can be NO SALVATION for any lost person apart from the VERBAL PROCLAMATION of the gospel of Christ

Romans 10:13-15 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." ¹⁴ ¶ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent?

Some foolish slogan: "Preach the gospel; use words if necessary!"

Like saying, "Feed the hungry; use food if necessary!"

4. It is by the WORDS of the gospel that lost people learn about Christ... the Savior of the world

B. Need for Spirit-Given Words

1. Paul has urged the Ephesian Christians to pray IN THE SPIRIT... and to pray for him that WORDS MAY BE GIVEN HIM...
2. The clear text is that he would boldly proclaim the MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL
3. What is the mystery of the gospel? Something hidden and now revealed by the Holy Spirit:

Colossians 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

4. What does Paul mean by "pray that WORDS MAY BE GIVEN ME..."
5. We believe the Holy Spirit FEEDS US WORDS that will be appropriate for the setting and for the people... the Holy Spirit tells us what to say and how to say it

Matthew 10:19-20 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

6. This power of the Spirit to speak convicting, life-changing words through us is essential to the spread of the gospel... the Spirit knows things about our audience, our hearers, that we would have no way of knowing

7. It makes evangelism a mysterious collaborative effort between us and the Spirit:
8. Paul calls himself an AMBASSADOR IN CHAINS... so the King is speaking through us

2 Corinthians 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" ...Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

Application: Do you ask for prayer from your friends for WORDS to speak to lost people?

V. Praying for Fearlessness

Ephesians 6:19-20 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, 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.

A. The centerpiece of Paul's request for prayer: FEARLESSNESS

1. The boldness that only the Spirit can give
2. We speak as ambassadors from the King of the Universe!! Why should we be afraid?
3. BUT WE ARE!! We are paralyzed by fear of man!
4. This is the single greatest Satanic roadblock to the spread of the gospel on earth... the fear that Christ's servants have of other people
5. We are afraid of their reaction: afraid they will insult us, oppose us, become angry at us, shun us, hate us, or worse... attack us, imprison us, kill us
6. These fears are a VERY EFFECTIVE Satanic bulwark against the spread of the gospel

B. Many Verses Address the Fears

Hebrews 13:6 So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

Matthew 5:11-12 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because

great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

C. Example in My Own Life: Outreach to Salem

1. Halloween, 1991... waves churning and roaring at what would be called the "Perfect Storm"
2. I was to lead an outreach to Salem, MA
3. I was at work that day, with increasing fear about the outreach... Satan was really at work in my heart
4. I was memorizing Isaiah 51... and God used these words to rebuke me out of fear

Isaiah 51:12-16 "I, even I, am he who comforts you. Who are you that you fear mortal men, the sons of men, who are but grass, ¹³ that you forget the LORD your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, that you live in constant terror every day because of the wrath of the oppressor, who is bent on destruction? For where is the wrath of the oppressor? ¹⁴ The cowering prisoners will soon be set free; they will not die in their dungeon, nor will they lack bread. ¹⁵ For I am the LORD your God, who churns up the sea so that its waves roar-- the LORD Almighty is his name. ¹⁶ I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand-- I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

D. Amazing that Paul Felt the Need for Prayer

1. You might say, "Why did someone as bold as Paul need prayer that he would proclaim Christ fearlessly?!"
2. I believe Paul wrestled with fears of man more than any other witness in the history of the Church
3. Why? Because he WAS an "ambassador in chains"; because he HAD been persecuted perhaps more than any witness in the history of Christianity:

Acts 9:15-16 This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

2 Corinthians 11:24-25 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned

4. Paul had been MOCKED in Athens by the philosophers there and was so demoralized when he came to Corinth he described himself this way:

1 Corinthians 2:3 I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling.

5. Paul was so battle-scarred and weary of abuse that the Lord had to appear to him in Corinth:

Acts 18:9-10 One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city."

6. Paul was deeply concerned that he would not be ashamed of Christ

Philippians 1:19-20 I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

Paul's concern here is clearly not that he would die... he is eager and ready to die. The real issue is, will Christ be exalted in my body whether by life or death? Will Paul crumble into the desire to be ashamed and to hold back from glorifying Christ, or would he be bold enough to be faithful in proclaiming Christ right to the end of his life?

Paul yearned for "deliverance" from shame... deliverance from weakness... deliverance from cowardice... deliverance from the devil's attacks... WHY? So that he would have sufficient courage so that Christ would be exalted in his body, whether by life or death

The answer was found in the prayers of God's people for him and the help given by the Spirit of Christ

7. This fear of man came to a climax at the end of his life:

2 Timothy 4:16-17 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

The issue on Paul's mind was simple... would he complete his life's work with a clear and bold proclamation of the gospel to Caesar, or would he wimp out at the last moment?

If this was on Paul's mind, even to the very end of his life and ministry, shouldn't it be on our minds too??

We have far less boldness and courage than Paul!!! His secret was leaning on the PRAYERS of God's people for boldness... leaning on the HELP GIVEN BY THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

Application: What about you? Could it be that you are so paralyzed by fear in evangelism that you never even think to be a witness for Christ? Could it be that your remedy is the same as Paul's... seeking PRAYER from God's people for BOLDNESS and COURAGE in preaching the gospel??

Could you make this a matter for prayer in your Home Fellowships? Could you share the name of someone you'd like to witness to, and ask prayer for FEARLESSNESS in talking with them

Illus. Missionary friend I have with the IMB served for many years in Izmir, Turkey. Likened Satan's intimidation work producing fear of evangelism to the PAPER BANNERS held by cheerleaders when a high school football team runs on the field; the lead player just RIP THROUGH THEM because they are PAPER-THIN!

VI. Praying for Clarity

Colossians 4:3-4 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

A. Paul Also Prays for CLARITY

B. The Gospel is a MYSTERY... the mystery of Christ

C. Only by supernatural working of the Spirit will people understand it

D. Paul wants to MAKE IT AS CLEAR AS POSSIBLE

1. Use illustrations... some people like the "bridge" diagram...Romans 6:23

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Other people like to use other illustrations or approaches

3. Make sure that you are CLEAR... ask if they understand

4. The four-part outline makes topics clear to you

a. God—Man—Christ—Response

VII. Applications

A. To the Unsaved... it is you that we've been thinking about!

1. Come to Christ!!
2. This is the gospel:
 - a. GOD: God created the universe, including the world and everything in it; he specially created the human race in his image and gave us LAWS by which we should live
 - b. MAN: we have broken God's laws; we have lied, stolen, lusted, sinned sexually, been sinfully angry and hostile, selfish and arrogant... the law's penalty is DEATH... we deserve not merely physical death, but eternal death in hell
 - c. CHRIST: God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, born of a virgin, to become a human being; he lived a sinless life, did great signs and miracles to prove he was God in the flesh; he died on the cross as a SUBSTITUTE for sinners like you and me; God raised him from the dead and he was seen by many witnesses
 - d. RESPONSE: if you repent of your sins and trust in Christ, all your sins will be forgiven; you will be born again, and adopted into God's family; then you can and should be water baptized and become a covenant member of a healthy church

B. Use Home Fellowships as a PRAYER BASE for FBCs evangelistic thrust

1. Seek prayer for your own effectiveness as an evangelist
2. Confess honestly your fears and failures to the group
3. Hold each other accountable
4. Resume getting a list of FIVE PEOPLE... five folks you know BY NAME that you would like prayer for in terms of evangelism

C. Look at the Basic Things Paul Prays for

1. Frequent opportunities: "whenever I open my mouth..."; ask for Spirit-orchestrated opportunities
2. Spirit-given words:
3. Boldness/fearlessness
4. Clarity

D. Look at PRAYER for Different Fields for Evangelism

1. Family: ask prayer from others for your evangelism of your children... even if they're grown; ask prayer from others for evangelism of lost parents and siblings
 2. Workplace: ask prayer partners for your evangelistic faithfulness and opportunities at WORK... prayer for your unsaved boss, or office mate, or secretary, or a guy out on the assembly floor, or a regular customer or patient
 3. Neighborhood: Ask prayer for your family to be active in your neighborhood, getting to know your neighbors, their spiritual backgrounds, prayer for opportunities, boldness, clarity
 4. Way of life: people you meet out in the community; coffee shops you frequent
 5. Event: involvement in FBCs outreaches throughout the year... VBS, Health Fair
 6. Long-term: pray for involvement in some big-ticket ministry that has you regularly connecting with lost people... urban ministry, refugee
- E. Unreached People Groups: PRAY FOR THE IMB, Joshua project... 6000 unreached people groups... 3 billion people who have never heard the name of Christ
- F. Pray for our M's: get their cards and lift them up... the Cauleys, Blaxtons, Mangers, Gillows, Mausts, McDonalds