

EPHESIANS 6:18–24

“WITNESS AND BLESSING”

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

OPENING

Ice Breaker (Choose One) – 5-10 minutes

Choose one:

- What's the longest road trip you've ever taken—and what made it either miserable or memorable?
- What comes to mind when you hear the word “witness”? Does it feel exciting, intimidating, awkward, or something else?
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Paul ends Ephesians not with a dramatic finale, but with a reminder of how Christians keep going in a world that resists the gospel: prayer, perseverance, and grace.

Read the Text Together: Ephesians 6:18–24 – 3 minutes

Read Ephesians 6:18–24 aloud. Listen for Paul's prayer request(s); Paul's description of his situation; repeated themes.

SUMMARY

In the closing verses of Ephesians, Paul answers a crucial question: What does a renewed life look like in a world that does not welcome the gospel? Paul describes believers as people who have been renewed by grace and are now sent as witnesses. But gospel witness is not sustained by personality, gifting, or confidence. It is sustained by prayer and grace. Pastor Jeff highlighted three defining marks of renewed people:

- Renewed people depend on prayer for boldness (vv. 19–20). Paul asks the church to pray not for comfort or release, but for faithful witness.
- Renewed people bear witness in suffering (vv. 20–22). Paul calls himself an “ambassador in chains.” His hardship becomes part of his witness.
- Renewed people are sustained by grace (vv. 23–24). The closing message of Ephesians is not “try harder,” but peace and love and faith for those who love Jesus. Perseverance is not driven by willpower but by God's grace.

DISCUSSION

Observation Questions

- What words describe how believers are to pray?
- What does Paul ask the church to pray for in verses 19–20?
- What does Paul call himself? How does the theme of suffering show up in the passage?
- Who is Tychicus, and why is he being sent (vv. 21–22)?
- How does Paul close this letter? What's the tone or feel?



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: Please feel empowered to use only the questions that are helpful for the context of your group.

Interpretation & Theological Reflection

- Why does Paul ask for boldness rather than freedom, comfort, or safety?
- What does it mean that Paul is an “ambassador in chains”? What does that reveal about gospel ministry?
- How is “the mystery of the gospel” displayed in this last section? What’s surprising about how God is working, what faithfulness looks like?
- Why is encouragement such a major theme? What does Paul assume about the church?
- What does Paul mean by “peace” in verse 23? What do you think “love with faith” means? Why does Paul connect love and faith? What does “love incorruptible” suggest about the love Christ produces in believers?

Application Questions

- What fears or difficulties tend to make you silent about Jesus?
- Paul says boldness is not personality, but obedience. Where might God be calling you to simple obedience in witness?
- When you suffer, do you tend to assume it means God is absent, or that God is working?
- When have you seen suffering become a testimony of faith? What impact did it have on you? What are the “chains” you might face today?
- Paul sends Tychicus to encourage the church. Who has been a “Tychicus” in your life? Who might God be calling you to encourage this week?
- Whatever community you have, how can that become a place of honesty and encouragement rather than image management?

- When you are tired or discouraged, what is usually the first thing to collapse—joy, prayer, patience, love, hope?
- What would it look like for you to live out of “peace... love with faith... grace” instead of willpower this week?

Closing Prayer

Praise

- Thank God for renewing us by grace, not by our effort.
- Praise Jesus as the risen and reigning Lord who sends His people as ambassadors.

Confession

- Confess fear of people and the desire for comfort over faithfulness.
- Confess prayerlessness and spiritual drifting.
- Confess times you have responded with anger or silence instead of gospel boldness.

Requests

- Pray for boldness to speak “as we ought.”
- Pray for clarity, courage, and love in conversations about Christ.
- Pray for endurance when obedience becomes costly.

Perseverance and Encouragement

- Pray for perseverance and spiritual alertness.
- Pray for someone in your group who is discouraged or weary.
- Ask God to make your group a community of encouragement and stability.

Grace and Peace

- Pray that Christ’s peace would guard hearts and relationships.
- Pray for “love with faith”—steady love that doesn’t collapse under pressure.
- Ask God for “incorruptible love” for Jesus that lasts.

Optional Take-Home Reflection

- What is one situation this week where you want to ask God for boldness to live or speak as you ought?



**PREPARE FOR
NEXT WEEK:**

Leviticus 1:1-4; 23:1-4