

Ephesians 6:18-24 (NIV)

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 Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, 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.

Final Greetings

²¹ Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. ²² I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

²³ Peace to the brothers and sisters,^[a] and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.^[b]

Footnotes:

- a. [Ephesians 6:23](#) The Greek word for *brothers and sisters* (*adelphoi*) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God's family.
- b. [Ephesians 6:24](#) Or *Grace and immortality to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ*.

Ephesians 6:18-24 (HCSB)

¹⁸ Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert in this with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. ²⁰ For this I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I might be bold enough in Him to speak as I should.

Paul's Farewell

²¹ Tychicus, our dearly loved brother and faithful servant^[a] in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me so that you may be informed. ²² I am sending him to you for this very reason, to let you know how we are and to encourage your hearts.

²³ Peace to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ Grace be with all who have undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.^{[b][c]}

Footnotes:

- a. [Ephesians 6:21](#) Or *deacon*
- b. [Ephesians 6:24](#) Other mss add *Amen*.
- c. [Ephesians 6:24](#) Lit *all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruption*

Holman Christian Standard Bible - Study Bible¹

Ephesians 6:18-24

6:18-20 Each piece of armor must carefully be put on with prayer, drawing upon divine resources. This prayer is Spirit-energized, Spirit-enabled, and Spirit-directed. Praying in the Spirit is an admission of a believer's ignorance and dependence on God.

6:21-24 Paul concluded with greetings that lack the personal references usually present in his letters. Such omissions are hard to explain if the letter was intended only for the church at Ephesus, the place where Paul stayed longer than anywhere else in his ministry ([Ac 18:19-21](#); [19](#); [20:13-31](#)) and presumably had numerous personal relationships. For this reason many conclude that the letter was intended to circulate more broadly, addressing not just the church at Ephesus but other churches of the region also. Most likely **Tychicus** carried the letter, along with the letter to the Colossian church and the personal letter to Philemon.

English Standard Version - Study Bible²

Ephesians 6:18-24

6:18-20 *Being Constant in Prayer.* This section offers instruction on prayer (the main weapon of spiritual warfare) and explains when, how, and for whom to pray.

6:18 **praying.** The weapons for warfare are spiritual because they are rooted in prayer, which is the Christian's most powerful resource. Prayer is to permeate believers' lives as a universal practice, as seen by the use of "all" four times in this verse: **at all times... with all prayer... with all perseverance... for all the saints.** Prayer **in the Spirit** is a form of worship ([John 4:23-24](#)) enabled by the Spirit of God, who intercedes on behalf of the person who prays ([Rom. 8:26-27](#)).

6:21-24 *Conclusion.* Paul concludes his letter with closing remarks ([vv. 21-22](#)) and a final benediction ([vv. 23-24](#)). The remarks concern his introduction of Tychicus.

6:21-22 **Tychicus the beloved brother** had served Paul faithfully for some time (see [Acts 20:4](#); [Col. 4:7](#); [2 Tim. 4:12](#); [Titus 3:12](#)) and probably carried the original letter to Ephesus.

6:23-24 Paul concludes his letter with a benediction of **peace, love, faith, and grace** upon the church, as he had done in the opening ([1:2](#)). He mentions "love" three times, which is fitting for a letter where the love of God, the love of Christ, and Christian love have been prominent themes.

1. Jeremy Royal Howard, ed., *HCSB Study Bible*, (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2010), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Ephesians 6".

2. Lane T. Dennis, ed., *ESV Study Bible, The: English Standard Version*, (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Bibles, 2008), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Ephesians 6".

NLT Life Application Study Bible³

Ephesians 6:18-24

6:18 How can anyone pray at all times? One way is to make quick, brief prayers your habitual response to every situation you meet throughout the day. Another way is to order your life around God's desires and teachings so that your very life becomes a prayer. You don't have to isolate yourself from other people and from daily work in order to pray constantly. You can make prayer your life and your life a prayer while living in a world that needs God's powerful influence. We also should pray for all believers in Christ; so pray for the Christians you know and for the church around the world.

6:19, 20 Undiscouraged and undefeated, Paul wrote powerful letters of encouragement from prison. Paul did not ask the Ephesians to pray that his chains would be removed but that he would continue to speak fearlessly for Christ in spite of them. God can use us in any circumstance to do his will. Even as we pray for a change in our circumstances, we should also pray that God will accomplish his plan through us right where we are. Knowing God's eternal purpose for us will help us through the difficult times.

6:21 Tychicus is also mentioned in [Acts 20:4](#), [Colossians 4:7](#), [2 Timothy 4:12](#), and [Titus 3:12](#).

6:24 This letter was written to the church at Ephesus, but it was also meant for circulation among other churches. In this letter, Paul highlights the supremacy of Christ, gives information on both the nature of the church and on how church members should live, and stresses the unity of all believers—male, female, parent, child, master, slave—regardless of sex, nationality, or social rank. The home and the church are difficult places to live the Christian life, because our real self comes through to those who know us well. Close relationships between imperfect people can lead to trouble—or to increased faith and deepened dependence on God. We can build unity in our churches through willing submission to Christ's leadership and humble service to one another.

Life Essentials Study Bible⁴

A Principle to Live By Ephesians #16: God-Ordained Communication *from Ephesians 6:21-24*

**To experience God's blessings in our lives,
we must communicate with one another.**

Paul sent Tychicus to report to them so they would know how he was faring in prison and how he was doing in his mission to the Gentiles ([v. 21](#)). He was certain they would be encouraged by God's grace in his life, just as the Philippians were by his ability to rejoice in what God was doing through his imprisonment ([Php 1:12-20](#)).

Following Paul's example, we must sensitively and discreetly communicate to others in our spiritual family what is happening in our lives. We are members of one another. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians,

So if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ([1Co 12:26](#))

Reflection and Response

How do Paul's one another injunctions help to communicate with one another and build up the body of Christ?

⁴ Gene Getz, *Life Essentials Study Bible*, (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2011), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, 1635.