

BLUEPRINTS FOR BATTLE

BLUEPRINTS

OF THE CHURCH

SERMON RESOURCE

Our Liturgy

The Lord is here — His Spirit is with us.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is – there is Freedom!

CONNECT

- 15 MINUTES

How have you brought a "Berean spirit" to God's word this week? Are there any ways you have noticed a change in your hunger for the Word?

REVIEW - 30 MINUTES

Share a bit about your understanding or ways you have experienced the supernatural world.

Have you noticed a cultural shift in this area in your lifetime?

Ephesus at the time of Paul was a cosmopolitan center with an economy based on Artemis worship. The city was also famous for its magical arts.

Read Acts 19:8-20

- What stands out to you about the passage?
- What questions come up for you?
- Do you see any relevance to our world?
- Do you believe you live in a spiritual battle? What does that look like? How do
 you discern the difference between what is spirit, soul, and body.
- Why do you think the sons of Sceva were successful until they weren't?

Read Ephesians 6:10-17

- v. 13 notice the sequence of actions; does the order matter?
- v. 14-17 How do you stand? What does the opposite look like for you?
- Every piece of armour has to do with being in alignment with God--we are protected when we are submitted to God's authority
 - o Truth; Ephesians 4:11-15. In a confusing world how can we know truth?
 - Righteousness; Ephesians 5:1-9. Right living brings us under God's authority and then able to exercise His authority. When we are resisting conviction, we have nothing left to resist the evil one.
 - \circ Good News of Peace; Ephesians 2:11-18. How would this apply in our culture?



- Shield of Faith; Ephesians 3:16-17. How does your faith grow stronger in God's love? How does this block the fiery darts of the enemy?
- Helmet of Salvation; Ephesians 1:7. How does this truth guard your mind?
- Sword of the Spirit, word of God. What truth from God's word do you need to bring to bear on your life?

APPLICATION

- 20 MINUTES

Read James 4:7

- Where do you need to 'humble yourself before God'?
- How can you resist the devil?

Read this Lordship Prayer out loud:

Lordship Prayer

Jesus, I admit that I want my own way, but I choose You. Thank You for saving, healing, and restoring me. Today I choose to walk in step with You. I invite You to be Lord of every area of my life.

Lord of my relationship with you and my relationships with others.

Lord of my thoughts, dreams, and desires.

Lord of my emotions and my reactions.

Lord of all my choices and decisions.

Lord of my body, my health, my eating, my exercise, my rest, and my appearance.

Lord of my entertainment, what I look at and listen to. Lord of my mouth and what I say.

Lord of my work.

Lord of my sexuality.

Lord of my resources, time, finances, and energy.

Lord of my marriage and parenting.

Lord of my perceived needs.

Jesus, I long for more freedom for myself and the world around me. Please teach me how to walk in a new way. I want to know You more and more. I want to show others how wonderful you are. Thank You for Your limitless grace. Amen.



Going Deeper:

Read a chapter of the book of Ephesians every day this week.

- First reading...what stands out to you?
- Read the chapter a second time, out loud. Your brain processes differently when seeing, saying, and hearing.
- Read it a third time making it a prayer—thank God for truth and invite His Spirit to make it a reality in your life.

Pray the Lordship Prayer every morning this week and notice how it impacts your day.

