**“PRAY” SERIES PREACHING/STUDY NOTES**

**Week 3: THE WAR OF PRAYER**

**We are in a spiritual war:** *Ephesians 6:10-18: “The Armour of God*

We have an enemy, he has schemes against us, but we have weapons to take our stand against him.

The Devil is a real spiritual being, under God’s judgment for rebellion against God *(see 1 Timothy 3:6)*

His aim is to thwart the plans of God and oppose God’s people.

Unbelievers in Jesus are under the Devil’s influence *(see 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2)*

The Devil is already defeated by Jesus on the cross *(Romans 16:20)* and his fate is sealed *(Revelation 20:10)*

God’s people have been rescued by Jesus and are no longer under the Devil’s control *(see Colossians 1:13)*

If all authority belongs to Jesus *(see Matthew 28:18-19)*, the Devil has no authority other than what we he is given – he can be resisted!

**watch the WAR ROOM movie**

*“Victories don’t happen by accident”* (Miss Clara, *War Room*)

**We have a responsibility to steward our God-given potential** *(see James 4:1-10)*

*(see additionally Ephesians 4:27, 6:11; 1 Peter 5:6-9)*

We take responsibility by:

* Submitting to God *(James 4:7)*
* Resisting the Devil *(James 4:8)*
* Drawing near to God *(James 4:8)*
* Treating it seriously *(James 4:9)*
* Humbling ourselves *(James 4:10)*

**Though being new creations in Christ, we still have a sinful nature** *(see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 7:7-25)*

There is an inner battle between the person we used to be and the person Jesus has saved us to be.

**We are called to put off the old self and clothe ourselves with the new** *(see Romans 6:6; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:9-10)*

**Keep praying!** *(see Ephesians 6:18)*

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. *(Colossians 4:2 NIV)*

They devoted themselves to ... prayer. *(Acts 2:42 NIV)*

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. *(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV)*