

**FEBRUARY 15, 2009**

*Questions for Study and Reflection*

1. Pastor Charlie said that the first three chapters of Ephesians are governed by the sentence in 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...” What evidence can you find in Ephesians 1-3 that supports or contradicts this thesis?
2. Pastor Charlie also said that the last three chapters of Ephesians are governed by the sentence in 4:1, “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called...” How is this sentence connected to the first three chapters? What evidence can you find in Ephesians 4-6 that supports or contradicts this thesis?
3. If Pastor Charlie’s theses are right, what do you think Paul is trying to accomplish in Ephesians 6:10-20? Why does he use the language of war? Is this language metaphorical or actual? Explain your answer.
4. Look up the following passages and ponder this question: is it right to think of Christians as warriors who are engaged in war? Ephesians 6:10-20, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 & 11:23-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, 1 Timothy 6:11-16, and 2 Timothy 4:6-7.
5. Pastor Charlie said that the first reason he went to such great lengths to argue for the fact that Christians are warriors engaged in war is because some argue that, since Christ has done all, they have no more need to fight. Read the quote from Arthur Pink in today’s bulletin and articulate your position on the matter.
6. Pastor Charlie said that the second reason he went to such great lengths to argue for the fact that Christians are warriors engaged in war is because a thorough and honest study of Ephesians 6:10-20 will lead any Christian to make serious changes in their life. Are you willing examine yourself honestly in light of this text and make changes as the Lord leads you? Do you see something of the joy that will be yours if you follow him in this?
7. Spend some time praying for Glory of Christ, asking that the Lord will greatly bless us for the glory of his name as we engage in the study of these verses.