

## SERMON SUMMARY January 5, 2020 – Rick Myatt



### **STEALTH WEAPON**

**37th in the Series on Ephesians Titled, "Messages to the Misfits"**

**Passage: Ephesians 6:18-20 - Topic: Prayer**

This past Sunday, Rick resumed our series on Ephesians with a sermon on the topic of prayer.

He taught why prayer is such a powerful part of our arsenal for the spiritual battle we are in. We need to not just fight on the defense, but to take the offensive to win. He also encouraged us to pray more for our loved ones to be victorious in the spiritual battle instead of thinking mostly of our own need for victory. This weapon of prayer is as effective as an F-22 stealth fighter jet, he said, which shoots down the enemy before it is even detected.

He explained that in fact, prayer is itself a spiritual battle. Demons know of this stealth weapon; they fear it, hate it, and know how to defeat us in it - mostly by distracting us from it... making us too busy to pray. They also know that sleepiness keeps us from praying, and use every trick in their arsenal to make us too tired to pray.

He taught how prayer should be done - it involves asking, even though we can't understand how praying to the omniscient Almighty Creator can have any effect. And needs to be done in the Spirit. Paul says that being in the Spirit is as opposed to being in the flesh - doing things in our own power vs. in God's. Praying in the Spirit is praying not by our own ability but by virtue of the fact that we are in Christ, and *He* deserves to be heard and His prayers answered. God will grant us all we ask when we know all He knows and are as righteous as He is.

So Rick summed up how to approach prayer:

1. See prayer as a *privilege*, not a duty!
2. Trust in Grace - God will answer your prayers because of Jesus, not you; *not because of how much or how well you pray*.
3. Use your weapon - by *Jesus'* righteousness. God answers even prayers of those who know next to nothing about Him.