



The Orchard Church | 20 MacLoughlin Drive, Te Puke 3119 | p +64-7-5738961

11 Oct 26 | Pray with Persistence | Ephesians 6:18-20 | Nelson Schonfeldt

## Groups & Families Discussion Questions

*Follow along with the sermon and use these questions to dive a little deeper with your group, with your families at home or for your own personal reflection.*

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**Sermon Notes:** Can you identify the main point, the subpoints and application of today's message?

## ***Life Group Questions***

1. Conversation starter: What's something you're confident you could beat everyone else in the group at?
2. Read Ephesians 6:18–20. What words or ideas does Paul repeat, and what do they tell us about the kind of prayer life he has in mind?
3. Paul says to pray “at all times.” What does this mean, and what might it practically look like to develop the habit? (Rather than only praying at set times or when something goes wrong?)
4. Paul connects persistent prayer with being “alert” or “watchful.” Why might it be important to know what is going on in the world and lives of people around us? What are some practical ways we can become more watchful?
5. Petition means asking God for something. Why do you think our prayers can sometimes become vague—“bless them,” “be with them,” “help them”? What difference might it make to pray specifically? Think of something you are praying about at the moment: what would a more specific prayer sound like?
6. Paul tells us to pray “for all the Lord’s people.” How easily can our prayers become centred on ourselves and the people closest to us? Who are some Christians—or groups of Christians—we can to be praying for as a group more deliberately?
7. “The only way we’ll ever stand is on our knees with lifted hands.” Where might you be in danger of relying on your own strength rather than prayer? What is one practical change you could make this week to become more watchful, specific, or persistent in prayer?