



# TENACITY

## Pray, Persevere, and Passion

### [Ephesians 6:18-20]

*Tenacity is . . . the mental or moral strength to resist opposition, danger, or hardship. It implies firmness of mind and will in the face of danger or extreme difficulty. [Webster's Dictionary]*

**Ephesians 6:18-20** <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, <sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak..

**[1] Pray at all times. And in all occasions. [18a]**

**[2] Persevere in prayer. [18b]**

**[3] Passion for the Gospel. [19-20]**

### Discussion Questions from Life Connections Study Bible

1. Read Ephesians 6:18-20 Prayer underlies the whole process of battling evil. How does/could the practice of prayer influence our lives each day?
2. Supplication: the act of making a humble plea. Is it possible that an attitude of entitlement has robbed you of a spirit of joy and peace? Has life wronged you or been unfair in such a way that you have forgotten your blessings? Take time to realize the ways God has blessed you.
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. The mystery and victory of the gospel is a beautiful thing. How should we understand the terms “corruption” and “incorruption” in these verses? How do these verses bring you hope? In what ways have you experienced the sting of death? In what ways have you been “changed” by your experiences with Jesus?
4. Pray for God to help you persevere, live a life of prayer, and give you a passion to share the gospel.

**Ephesians 6:10-20** <sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at **all** times in the Spirit, with **all** prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with **all** perseverance, making supplication for **all** the saints, <sup>19</sup> and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the **mystery of the gospel**, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

### Matthew 6:9-13

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
<sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread,  
<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-58** <sup>50</sup> I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:  
“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

<sup>55</sup> “O death, where is your victory?  
O death, where is your sting?”

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

### Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.