

The General Electric Power Company Series

Galatians | **Ephesians** | Philippians | Colossians

Lesson #12 – Ephesians 6

Main Idea

Ephesians 6 is the final chapter of Paul's letter to the Ephesians, emphasizing spiritual warfare, obedience, and perseverance in faith. It begins with instructions for children to honor their parents and for fathers to raise their children in God's discipline. Paul also addresses slaves and masters, urging fair and respectful treatment based on mutual service to Christ. The chapter's most well-known section describes the Armor of God, a metaphor for spiritual readiness against evil forces. Paul urges believers to put on truth, righteousness, faith, salvation, and the Word of God as their defense against the schemes of the devil. Prayer is emphasized as a constant source of strength. Paul closes by requesting prayers for boldness in preaching the gospel, reinforcing the need for unity, perseverance, and reliance on God's power. The chapter serves as a call to steadfast faith, moral integrity, and spiritual vigilance in the face of challenges.

Overview of Chapter 6

Verses 1–4	Children and parents
Verses 5–9	Slaves and Masters
Verses 10–19	The Armor of God
Verses 20–24	Final Greetings

Questions for Consideration

1. The first portion of Ephesians 6 is merely a continuation of Ephesians 5:22-33, where Paul addressed husbands and wives. The family is the very foundation of society. It is no wonder that Satan has an all-out attack on this precious and vitally important institution. Read the story of *The Prodigal Son* in Luke 15:11-32 and consider the following questions:
 - a. Why is it important for children to obey their parents?
 - b. What reasons exist for children rebelling against parents and society?
 - c. What is promised for obedient children?
 - d. Does being an obedient child impact one's ability as a future parent?
2. How formidable of an opponent is Satan for us as Believers? Why does he hate us so much?
3. Consider verses 10 through 18 and answer the following questions:
 - a. Make a complete list of each piece of armor.
 - b. In battle what was the purpose of each article?
 - c. What is the spiritual application for each?
 - d. In your life, which piece of armor has the greatest impact on how you live your life?
4. One of the themes in Ephesians is living a holy life (reread Ephesians 1:4-5).
 - a. What does holiness look like in our lives?"
 - b. What is your biggest distraction from living a holy life?
 - c. How could the Armor of God impact your life and desire to be holy?

Homework: Read Philippians 1. In what ways are you sacrificing to advance the Gospel?



Ephesians 6 (New International Version 1984)

Children and Parents

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³ “that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”^[a]
⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Slaves and Masters

⁵ Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ⁶ Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. ⁷ Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, ⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

⁹ And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

The Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Final Greetings

²¹ Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. ²² I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you.

²³ Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

Footnotes:

a. [Ephesians 6:3](#) Deut. 5:16

Exodus 20:12

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

¹ These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ² so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

Proverbs 13:24

He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

Colossians 3:21

Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

