

## Theme: Alive in Christ

Background:

Author: Paul (from prison)

Readers: first to Ephesus, then circulated

Themes: Grace, reconciliation, love, unity, identity, purpose

Focus: Who you are in Christ, and how He's changing you.

Truths:

"The Christian life is not a playground; it's a battleground."

Believers are called to intentionally walk in God's provision for daily protection.

A spiritual battle requires spiritual preparation.

Review: 2nd James verse

New verse: Ephesians 6:10-11 (somehow I put in the wrong one last week)

Passage: Ephesians 6:18-20

The Context:

Christians Live Different

Prepare for Spiritual Battle

Know your enemy:

Our battle is not against flesh and blood.

Our enemy is not to be underestimated.

Prepare your defense:

The believer's preparation should be careful and intentional.

Familiarize yourself with your weapon now.

A call to prayer and proclamation.

Title slide: Undying and Incorruptible

What kind of follower was Tychicus?

- Dearly loved brother

"dearly loved" Phrase God used of Jesus Christ

- Faithful servant

Doulos- bond servant/love servant

- A trusted messenger

He likely carried Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon

- Ministry companion

He was more than just a mailman.

- Personal representative

Paul trusted him as an ambassador to address any questions or concerns the recipients may have.

What kind of follower was Paul?

- Paul had an attitude of selflessness.

His focus was always on others.

He trusted others with ministry.

- Paul had an attitude of contentment

Physically, he was in prison and in need.

Spiritually he was free, lacking no good thing.

What kind of follower are you?

- Are we at peace?
- Are we walking in love and faith?
- Have we been changed by grace?
- Do we live with undying love?

Take Aways:

You never forget a Tychicus!

The Gospel is a life transforming message.