

Greater Love
John 15:9-21

Review:

1. The world is full of hate and violence because it is opposed to Christ.
2. Our servicemen are an example of how we should serve others selflessly
3. Those who are willing to lay down their lives to protect others are examples of the self-sacrificial love Christ has for us
4. Those who are willing to lay down their lives for those who are ungrateful and undeserving are examples of the unconditional love Christ has for us.

Go further – Read Ephesians 6:10-20

1. In verse 10, whose strength does Paul say we should depend on?
2. In verse 11, what weapon does Paul say the devil wields against us?
3. How does Paul describe our adversaries in verse 12?
4. In verse 13, instead of promising that we can somehow avoid this spiritual conflict, how does Paul tell us to prepare for the inevitable fight?
5. What two pieces of equipment does Paul tell us to take up in verse 14? How might these help us in our fight?
6. In verse 15, what do you think is the connection between shoes and the preparation of the gospel of peace? How does this equipment help us in our fight?
7. In verse 16, from what does Paul promise us that faith protects us? Why do you think this is the case?
8. What two pieces of equipment does Paul prescribe in verse 17, and how should we use these things?
9. In verse 18, Paul turns from equipment to action – what does he tell us to do while we are wearing all this armor?
10. How does Paul say we should pray?
11. What specific prayer request does Paul make in verses 19 and 20? How does this inform how we should pray for ourselves? How does this inform our own priorities?
12. What does Paul's situation in verse 20 tell us about the inevitability of spiritual warfare?

Apply:

1. How can the priorities expressed in this passage change our focus?
2. What concrete steps can we take to incorporate this sort of spiritual preparation into our daily lives?