

Being watchful is a habit that is not always listed in the world's way of living. However, our God teaches us to be watchful. When we are watchful, we can foresee when the dangers of life are near. This week, we will explore how we can grow in our faith and keep on guard.

Jump Start

1. We have many opportunities to live life with one another and care for each other: serving together in the military, serving at a local campus, marrying and forming a family together, and playing together on a sports team. Tell about a time when you looked out for the interests of another person. Did your attitude affect how you cared for them?
2. **Read [1 Corinthians 16:13](#), [1 Peter 5:8](#)** We need to be watchful. We need to know the condition of our life, our family, and the world around us. We need to know what is going on in our husband's, wife's, kid's, and family members lives. If you continue the road you are on, what will your relationships, marriage, and family look like in five years?
3. **Read [Philippians 2:2](#), [1 Corinthians 1:10](#), [Isaiah 55:8](#)** Does your definition of unity differ from this verse? What areas of your life do you find the most unity? Where in your life do you need more unity?
4. **Read [Matthew 26:38-46](#), [Galatians 6:9](#), [Isaiah 40:31](#)** When we get weary of waiting, we often let down our guard. What are some things that you have grown weary of because you are waiting? What ways have you learned to combat stress and weariness in this season? How do we see Jesus combat sorrow and weariness?
5. **Pray This Prayer:** Father, "This is the day that You have made, and we will rejoice in it." Thank You for this day. Thank You Father for all Your children wherever You have assigned them....mothers and fathers working in and out of the home, pastors, church leaders and staff, missionaries, teachers and school staff administration, students, the workplace, caretakers and day care staff....whatever their station "we recognize their good work and esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." So, Father, would You please give them peace of mind and joy of soul. And let there be peace among us all as we love, respect and encourage each other during these most unprecedented difficult times. Help us to realize that we must always be on guard, for the enemy makes every effort to attack us and the work You have assigned each of us by bringing confusion, opposition, and highlighting weaknesses. Give us, Father, the wisdom, discernment, insight and the strength and courage to boldly pray and be on guard against these things. Father, we realize that just because we are Your children and choose to live by Your Truth making every effort to do what's right, there will be warfare. So, would You strengthen our hands and prepare us for battle realizing that prayer is the most powerful weapon. And would You help us to be quick to help and encourage others who are under spiritual attack. Father help us to conduct our lives to reflect Your glory. We pray without ceasing and pray that everything we say and do will be accompanied by the power of the Spirit with signs, wonders and miracles knowing that nothing is

impossible with You. We love You Father. We honor You. We rejoice and sing praises to Your Most Holy Name, the Name above all names. Amen. Sending tons of love and more love and prayer your way.

Deeper

We will learn how to complete a **S O A P Bible Study** by looking at a passage of Scripture and breaking it down. **S O A P** stands for **S**cripture **O**bservation **A**pplication **P**rayer. Let's get ready to sit down with the Bible and see to what God wants to show us. Completing this study during your quiet time, then sharing with your Life Group, can allow for deeper understanding and revelation of new perspectives. **Things you will need:** Bible, Notebook, Pen.

This week we learned about being watchful. Now we will look at the story of Abraham and Sarah and how their desire to have a child caused them to let down their guard and forget the covenant that God had made to Abraham. We will also see how God redeemed them and honored His promises. Just as it says in [Psalm 27:14](#), spend time over the week praying over this story. Ask God to refresh your mind and heart and speak clearly to you about what He is calling you to be watchful of in this season; ask Him to continue to refine you.

6. Scripture. Read [Genesis 16-21](#). What stood out to you the most about this parable?

Take time to read these passages and allow God to speak to you. Jot down anything that made you stop and pause or anything that you questioned. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you and write it out fully in your journal.

7. Observe. What is God saying to you in these verses? What overarching theme or promise did you see? What did the specific verse that you were drawn to teach you?

What do you think God is saying to you, personally and specifically, in these Scriptures? (You can even have a short prayer at this point, asking the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you. Remember that He promised to give us wisdom and reveal truth to us when we ask.)

8. Application. How will you apply this and how does this encourage you in your journey to spiritual maturity?

Personalize what you have read by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, a new promise, or corrections in an area of your life. Write down how this Scripture applies to you today.

9. Pray. Pray about what you have read in [Genesis 16-21](#).. Pray about what God revealed to you, asking Him to help you understand and apply it.

This prayer can be as simple as asking God to help you use this Scripture, or even a prayer for a

greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so take time here! Be sure to listen to what God has to say! Now, write it out. Journaling your quiet time helps you to see what God is teaching you over time.