

“Obsessed With Prayer & Proclamation”

Colossians 4:2-6

Colossians #14
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Big Idea: Devote yourselves to the power of prayer and the proclamation of the gospel.

I. Devote Yourselves to Prayer | vv.2-4.

1. *Continually*

- a. Devoted, without wavering, constantly persistent, done faithfully day-by-day
- b. “A failure to pray is a declaration of independence.” ~ H.B. Charles Jr.
- c. Romans 12:12 | “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”
- d. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 | “Pray without ceasing.”
- e. Ephesians 6:18 | “Pray at all times in the Spirit.”

2. *Watchfully*

- a. Done with vigilance, fully alert and awake, proactively.
- b. 1 Peter 5:8 | “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”
- c. Matthew 26:36-56 | Jesus warned his disciples to “watch and pray” in the Garden of Gethsemane.

3. *Thankfully*

- a. Done with an attitude of gratitude
- b. Paul mentions thanksgiving seven times in four chapters. (Colossians 1:3,12; 2:7; 3:15,16,17; 4:2)
- c. Psalm 100 | A Psalm for giving thanks

4. *Specifically*

- a. v.3 | “For Us.”
- b. v.3 | “That God may open a door to us for the word.”
- c. v.3 | “To declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison.”
- d. v.4 | “That I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.”

II. Devote Yourselves to the Proclamation of the Gospel | vv.5-6.

1. *By your Walk*

- a. v.5 | “Walk in wisdom toward outsiders.”
 - i. Colossians 3:17 | “Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”
 - ii. “Walk” → refers to a believers conduct and lifestyle
 - iii. “Outsiders” → refers to non-Christians; those who are outside of the faith
 - iv. Colossians 2:3 | [In Christ] “are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
- b. v.5 | “Making the best use of the time.”
 - i. Literally means to “redeem the time.”
 - ii. Psalm 90:12 | “Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.”

2. *By your Words*

- a. v.6 | “Let your speech always be gracious.”
 - i. Matthew 12:36 | “I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak.”
 - ii. Psalm 131:4 | “Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!”
- b. v.6 | “Seasoned with salt.”
 - i. Salt prevents decay
 - ii. Salt provides flavor
 - iii. Salt produces thirst
- c. v.6 | “That you may know how you ought to answer each person.”
 - i. Words of readiness
 - ii. 1 Peter 3:15 | “but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”