

Series "Jesus Is First"
"Walking The New Life"
Colossians 4:2-6
Part-16

Paul speaks about the Importance of Prayer – That this new life is dependent on our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Paul speaks about Our Witness – Conduct – how we behave in our walk.

Speech – There needs to be a holy balance between life and lip!

Thought Of Our Passage: The New Life In Christ Is A Life That Is Dependent Upon Christ And Lived Out Before Man.

1. Verses 2-4 – Prayer

2. Verses 5-6 – Witness

1. Verses 2-4 – Prayer:

Colossians 4:2

"Devote yourselves" – Paul just finished speaking about the new life of the employee and the employer, Colossians 4:1.

"Devote yourselves" – Paul now changes direction and addresses the entire church.

The word "devote" – "be constantly diligent, wait on continually, and strength to a task," Romans 12:12.

"to prayer," – We need to be committed to prayer. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – "pray without ceasing;"

4 Characteristics Of Prayer:

- 1. Faithful In Prayer** – "Devote yourselves to prayer," – When we are devoted to prayer, it shows our dependence upon the Lord. Only He can provide what we need.

Prayer is not a suggestion, it is a command.

Acts 1:14

Acts 2:42

Acts 6:4

Ephesians 6:18

Luke 18:1-8 – We should pray and not faint!

So, we need to be Faithful In Prayer.

2. Watchfulness In Prayer – “keeping alert in it” – It is the idea of “mental alertness, avoidance of drowsiness or sluggishness.”

Hebrews 12:2

Nehemiah 4:9

Matthew 26:38-41

1 Peter 5:8

Acts 16:25-30

Faithful in Prayer – Watchfulness in Prayer.

3. Thankfulness In Prayer – “with an attitude of thanksgiving;” – Paul has spoken of a heart overflowing in thankfulness 5X in this letter.

A heart that is devoted to prayer is a heart that is thankful.

Philippians 4:6

Worship is ascribing worth to God for who He is!

Thanksgiving is thanking Him for what He does!

Psalms 106:1

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Thankfulness is the evidence that a person is filled with the Spirit and filled with the Word, Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:20.

Colossians 4:3

Faithful in Prayer – Watchfulness in Prayer – Thankfulness in Prayer.

4. Focused In Prayer – “praying at the same time for us (Timothy) as well,” –We need to have a purpose in prayer. We need to focus on a specific area of prayer.

Notice what Paul wanted prayer for – a door for the word; He was in prison for preaching the Word. Paul was not asking for a door to escape but a door for ministry!

“speak forth the mystery of Christ” – The mystery of the equality of Gentiles and Jews together in God’s plan.

1 Corinthians 16:8-9

Acts 20:31

Colossians 4:4

“I may make it clear” – Paul wanted the message to be clear, understandable.

2. Verses 5-6 – Witness:

Colossians 4:5

Verse 5 – Walk: We need wisdom for our conduct – “Conduct yourselves with wisdom.” – The (K.J.V.) “Walk in wisdom” – He is speaking about our way of life, 1 Peter 2:12.

If what I do contradicts what I say, it will invalidate the message.
(Life and Lip)

Ephesians 5:15-16

“be careful how you walk,” – (K.J.V. “circumspectly”) is Latin, made up of two words meaning “looking” and “around;” the Greek word “akribos;” It is where we get our word “Acrobat;” diligently, perfectly, exactly, accurately. It speaks of great care in our steps; Walking with care!

“toward outsiders,” – (without) Those that don’t have Jesus.

“making the most” – (K.J.V redeem) “redeem by payment of a price to recover from the power of another, to ransom, buy off;” “to buy up for one’s self, for one’s use.”

“of the opportunity.” – Term “opportunity” is made up of two Latin words – “toward the port.” It gives the picture of a ship taking advantage of the wind and tide to arrive safely into the harbor.

When we think of serving Jesus Christ, we should think of “Space,” and the “Time.”

Verse 6 – “Speech”: Colossians 4:6

The unsaved not only watch what we do, but they also listen to what we say.

“Let your speech always” – This speaks of consistency.

“be with grace,” – Not old man, Colossians 3:8-9. We should exhibit the grace of Jesus that led us to Him.

“as though seasoned with salt,” – We should have grace and love, and compassion in our speech.

Salt was used for flavor, it was also a preservative.

1 Peter 3:15

Application:

1. In Our Prayers, We Must Be Devoted – (Faithful), Watchful – (Alert), Thankful – (Grateful) Focused In Prayer – (Purposeful).
2. The World Watches What We Do. We Need God’s Wisdom In Our Conduct So We Can Utilize Our Opportunities.
3. The World Listens To What We Say. So, Our Speech Should Be Seasoned With Grace So That We Will Know How We Should Respond To Each Person.