

October 20, 2019

Prayer Requests Colossians 4:2-6 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



Chapter 4 of Colossians turns to Paul's final greetings. In the first part of his final greetings we see some of the things that are dear to his heart. He instructs the reader to devote themselves to prayer and at the same time asks for the reader to pray for him. While Paul has been in many terrible situations that have threatened his health and even his life he does not ask the reader to pray for those things. His request has a bigger picture in mind. Paul asks the reader to pray for opportunity to share the gospel. Join us this week as we talk about the most important prayer request that we can make.

Colossians 4:2-6 (NASB)

² Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with *an attitude of thanksgiving*; ³ praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; ⁴ that

I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

⁵ Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. ⁶ Let your speech always be with grace, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. What does it mean to be alert in prayer?

9. What does Paul request prayer for? Is this surprising?

10. What instruction does Paul give in this section?

11. In verse 5 Paul says to make the most of every opportunity. What opportunities is he talking about?

12. How do we season our speech with salt? What does this mean?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

13. How can you make the most of every opportunity today? What does this mean for us? How can we prepare ourselves?

14. Paul asks for prayer in this section? Who is on your list to pray for every day? Who could you add to your list in light of this passage?

15. In light of this passage what opportunities should we pray for ourselves?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes