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A Resurrected Life Is Winsome!

FOR THE GROWING CHRISTIAN:

Colossians 4:2-6

Read Colossians 4:2-6. At the end of his letter to the Colossians the apostle Paul commands them, by Christ's authority, to constantly remain alert through the exercise of prayer. The reader finds Paul's example of a faithful and attentive prayer life throughout this and his other letters.

Paul was praying for other Christian's growth and strength (1:9-12). Paul was praying that other Christians would be greatly encouraged by God's promises and find that true sense of belonging in the Lord's family, His church (2:1-3). Paul rejoiced in prayer over other Christian's successes (1:3-6; 2:5). Paul was constantly thanking God in prayer for all the good things he saw God doing (1:3,12; 3:17; 4:2). Finally, Paul knew that prayer brought power and made a difference, so he was never shy to request that blessing from others (4:3).

Try incorporating these examples from Paul's prayer life into your own this week (don't forget to ask others to pray for you). Then notice the difference it makes in your daily walk.

Weekly Memory Verse:

Colossians 4:5

"Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity."

Weekly Affirmation:

I'LL MAKE THE MOST OF MY OPPORTUNITY WITH OTHERS!

FOR THE MATURE CHRISTIAN:

Read Colossians 4:17. Not a lot of information is given to us to know exactly who Archippus was or the details of his ministry to the Body of Christ in Colossae. But some clues will help us make application of this seeming irrelevant verse today. First, we know Epaphras was the main evangelist to the church in Colossae, but he is currently with Paul in Rome. Who is preaching while he is away? Most likely Archippus took up the task to help the work of the Lord's church continue in Epaphras' absence. Next, Archippus' ministry is described as being "recieved in the Lord," so we are safe to think that the work he is doing has Jesus' approval. Putting that together with the fact that we know this letter is read aloud to all the Christians gathered in Colossae, we interpret the verse as a command to encourage Archippus in his labor. What's our takeaway? 1. Your leaders need your constant voiced encouragement *(in addition to your prayers).* 2. Your leaders need those that will come alongside in the labor of teaching, preaching, serving.

FOR CHILDREN:

What are some ways that you stay alert? What helps you pay attention in school, in sports, or playing a video game? In Colossians 4:2 the apostle Paul writes, "Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving." Take a moment to think about why being thankful helps us stay alert?

Listing in prayer all the things we are thankful for each day helps us see all the ways that God is working in the world and blessing others and us!

This week try spending prayer time with your family before bed to list all the things you are thankful for each day. Don't forget to thank God for the ways He is blessing and helping others!

April 2025 Growth Goals

- Read the Book of Colossians *(plus 50 Psalms).* Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- Watch the Bible Project video on the Book of Colossians (available on the website).

Rest in 10 minutes of silence each week to remember both Jesus' death & resurrection, and your own spiritual resurrection.