

c. Acts 6:4

d. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

4. How does the example of the early church help us in our devotion?

5. Define watchful or alert.

a. What role does prayer play in our ability to keep alert?

6. What do these verses teach us about being watchful/alert?

a. Matthew 24:42-43, Mark 13:33-37

b. Matthew 26:38-41

c. Acts 20:28-31

d. 1 Corinthians 16:13

e. 1 Thessalonians 5:6

f. 1 Peter 5:8

7. What other element does Paul tell us should be in our prayer life and why?

Heart Check

- How is your prayer life? If it is lacking, make a renewed commitment to devote yourself to prayer.
- Are you watchful in both your prayer life and over the sin in your life? What can you do to watch diligently over your own heart?
- Do you have a daily practice of thankfulness? What can you do to make this more a natural part of your life (example: gratitude journal)?

Day 2—Verse 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 the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been bound,
--Colossians 4:3

1. In this verse, what does Paul ask the believers at Colossae to pray for?
2. Who does the “us” refer to?
3. How do Ephesians 6:19 and 2 Corinthians 3:12 help us pray for those who, like Paul, have the ministry of preaching the word?
4. How does Paul use the metaphor of an open door?
5. Who is in control of our gospel opportunities?

Day 3—Verse 4

that I may make it manifest in the way I ought to speak. --Colossians 4:4

1. Why is Paul so concerned that the truth of the mystery of Christ would be clear in his teaching?
2. What are some methods of evangelism that Paul would say are not as we ought to speak?
3. How should we present the gospel?
4. What does Paul ask the church at Ephesus to pray for in Ephesians 6:19-20?
5. What are some of Paul's circumstances that could have hindered him in speaking and proclaiming the message as he ought to?

- a. What are circumstances that hinder us from proclaiming the message as we ought to?
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6. How does 1 Peter 3:15 help you understand how we ought to speak?

 7. What else, aside from prayer, can we do to be prepared to share about Christ?

Heart Check:

- Can you give a short, clear, joyfully presentation of the gospel? If not, learn how you can do so!

Day 4—Verse 5

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, redeeming the time. --Colossians 4:5

1. What happens when our words and our actions do not match?
 - a. How might this affect our ability to share the gospel with unbelievers?

2. From 1 Timothy 3:7, what can happen when we do not walk in wisdom toward outsiders?

3. How do we walk in wisdom toward outsiders?

4. What does Ephesians 5:16 give as the motivation for redeeming our time?

5. How do we redeem the time? See 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12.

6. How short are our lives? Our time of ministry?

7. How does 1 Peter 3:15-17 help us when we walk in wisdom but we are still reviled by outsiders?

Heart Check:

- Is there anything in your life that an unbeliever can look at and discredit the message you proclaim because of your lack of integrity? What must you do to change this?
- What are you doing to redeem the time?

Day 5—Verse 6

Let your words always be with grace, seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should answer each person. —Colossians 4:6

1. What does it mean to speak with grace?

- a. List examples of speech we need to avoid.
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7. How does this help us know how to respond to each person?
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8. In Psalm 141:3, David asks God to set a guard over his mouth. How might that be a helpful prayer for us?

Heart check:

- Would those who are closest to you say that your speech is seasoned with grace? If not, pray and ask God to help you to grow in this area and then seek to do so.
- Do you struggle with anger, impatience, harshness, personal attacks, or sarcasm when conversing with others who have a different view? What must you do to put these off? How can knowing what logical fallacies you and your opponent are prone to when conversing help you season your speech with grace?

Dig Deeper

- Write down 3 (or more) people you would like to share the gospel with. Ask the Lord to provide those opportunities.
- Write down a 60 second, 3 minute, and long version of the gospel. Practice it daily.
- Use our Abiding Prayer Guide to grow in your devotion to prayer.
<https://gracelife.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2019.02.14-2-Prayer-Booklet.pdf>