

Instructions To God's People! Pt. D
Colossians 4:2-6
Sermon Series: Clash Of Kingdoms, Pt.9
August 23, 2015

Colossians 4:2, Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

1) We Should Take The ROOF OFF

Colossians 4:2, Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

➤ **Our Prayers Should Be Faithful, Watchful And THANKFUL**

1 Thessalonians 5:16, Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray continually, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 6:18, And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Philippians 4:6, Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

2) We Should Look For OPEN DOORS

Colossians 4:3, And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of

Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

Thought: The purpose of prayer is not to get man's will done in heaven, but to get God's will done on earth.

➤ **Our Message Should Be CLEAR**

Mark 4:11, Jesus told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you..."

Acts 14:27, On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

1 Corinthians 16:9, ...because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

3) We Should Make The Most Of EVERY OPPORTUNITY
Colossians 4:5, Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

➤ **The Message Should Be EFFECTIVE**

Ephesians 5:15, Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

1 Thessalonians 4:12, ...so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders...

1 Timothy 3:7, He must have a good reputation with outsiders...

4) We Should Share THE MESSAGE PERSONALLY

Colossians 4:6, Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

➤ **The Message Should Be Gracious And
INTERESTING**

Luke 4:22, *All spoke well of Him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from His lips.*

Putting Paul's Words Into Practice:

- **Explore God Campaign:** Host a one-hour discussion group at your house, office, coffee shop, etc. September 13 - October 25. Fill out the bottom of the Explore God insert and take it to the Explore God table in the Atrium or drop it in a Tithe and Offering Box, or go to www.cottonwoodcreek.org/exploreGod.