

Colossians 4:2-18

Questions

1. What one piece of advice about witnessing would you give to a younger Christian?
2. Read Colossians 4:2-6. In this section Paul teaches us how to speak to God about people and how to speak to people about God. Why would he tell us to *devote* ourselves to prayer (v. 2)?
3. Based on what you have read in Colossians, what are we to be watchful and thankful for (v. 2)?
4. Paul might have asked the church to pray for his release from prison. What requests does he make instead (vv. 3-4)? Why?
5. Since God is the one who opens doors for the gospel, take time now to pray these requests for your pastor, a missionary or Christian worker you know, and for yourself in your community (vv. 3-4).
6. What advice does Paul give us about the way we live and converse with non-Christians (vv. 5-6)?
7. How can the way we live around Non-Christians send a more powerful message about the Gospel often times more than simply telling them about Jesus? Aren't we commanded to preach the Gospel? How can the two work hand in hand?
8. In what ways might you "be wise in the way you act toward outsiders" and "make the most of every opportunity" (v. 5)?
9. How would conversation "always full of grace, seasoned with salt" (v. 6) prompt questions from non-Christians?
10. Take a few minute to think about and examine your speech. Is your speech and conversation around Christians and Non-Christians seasoned with salt and full of grace?
11. How would it change your attitude toward witnessing if each day you expected questions about your wise actions and gracious, salty speech?
12. Read Colossians 4:7-18. Paul concludes this letter with numerous personal messages and greetings. What qualities in people does Paul affirm, and why?
13. What types of friends do you surround yourself with? Are you able to speak highly of the Godly character of your closest friends?
14. Why is it important that your closest friends be strong Christians? Why is it important to reach put and form relationship with unbelievers?
15. You'll meet Onesimus, who was Philemon's runaway slave (v. 9), and Archippus, who was Philemon's son (v. 17), again in the next study. How might Paul's words make each one feel about himself and the other?
16. Epaphras, who had taken the gospel to the Colossians (1:7-8), is commended for his continuing concern for them. What impresses you about his praying?

17. From what you've learned about the problems at Colossae, why are his requests particularly appropriate?

18. How could you encourage or comfort a fellow Christian this week by following the example of someone named here?