## **Focus on the Word**

## **Bible Baptist Church | Dover**

COLOSSIANS: Jesus Christ is our all in all! He is all we need.

Chapter 4 – The *Preeminence* of Jesus Christ is <u>DISPLAYED</u>. Colossians 4:1-6

Our Duty – Displaying Christ at work and in the body of Christ...

Verse 1 MASTERS, give unto your servants that which is JUST and EQUAL:
 ...KNOWING that ye also have a Master in heaven.

Just What is due or suitable; proper or exactly proportioned.

Equal Having the same value; having the same condition or quality.

Ephesians 6:9 "And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing

threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there

respect of persons with him."

NOTE

If you are an employer or have employees or people under your leadership, this is a very important verse. How we treat those under our leadership in the world matters. We must be careful to give what is proper and due. It is also a great cause of frustration by employees when it does not happen as a pattern.

• Verse 2 Continue in PRAYER, and WATCH in the same with THANKSGIVING;

Continue To remain in a state or place; to abide for a time indefinitely

Watch Forbearance of sleep; attendance without sleep; attention or close observation

Ephesians 6:18 "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and

watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all

saints;"

NOTE

The assumption in this verse is that we are ALREADY PRAYING! So, we must get to praying if we are not! Then, we must continue in prayer – and all night if needed because prayer is that important. Keep track of your prayers and look for God to answer them because that is what He wants to do. And, in all of our prayers ought to be thanksgiving to God for all that He has done and does.

Verse 3 Withal PRAYING also for us, that God would open unto us a DOOR:
 ...of utterance, to SPEAK the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in BONDS;

Utterance The act of uttering words; emission from the mouth; vocal expression

Speak The act of uttering words; to talk; to make mention of

Ephesians 6:19 "And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my

mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,"

NOTE

Are you praying for open doors to speak to people? How is it that we are expecting open doors if we are not praying for the God of heaven and earth to open hearts and doors for us to speak?? The "bonds" of our life are to be used for God's glory. Our life is a platform to speak the gospel to others. Are we ready to speak the truth in love? As a church, let's pray harder for open doors.

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Verse 4 That I may MAKE IT MANIFEST, as I OUGHT to SPEAK.

> Plain, open, clearly visible to the eye or obvious to the understanding. Manifest

Ought To be held or bound in duty or moral obligation.

Ephesians 6:20 "For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak

boldly, as I ought to speak."

NOTE It is our duty and obligation to our Lord Jesus Christ to make His glorious

> gospel KNOWN to the world!! We must make it plain. We must make it clear. We must CAUSE people to understand the truth of the holy Scriptures. We are ambassadors for our Lord Jesus Christ. How have we been representing Him?

Verse 5 WALK in WISDOM toward them that are WITHOUT,

...REDEEMING the TIME.

Walk In Scripture, to live and act or behave; to pursue a particular course of life. Redeeming Ransoming; procuring deliverance from captivity by payment of an equivalent.

Ephesians 5:15 "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,"

Romans 16:19 "For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore

on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good,

and simple concerning evil."

NOTE

We are not here on planet earth for ourselves, but for God's glory. We must realize that everyone is watching. The world needs to be saved! We need to redeem the time. What we say matters. How we respond to life's trials and difficulties matters. How we talk to strangers matters. How we talk to our family and friends matters. And, how we talk to others in the body of Christ matters.

Verse 6 LET your SPEECH be ALWAY with GRACE,

Seasoned with SALT.

That you may KNOW **HOW** ye ought to ANSWER every man.

Grace Good will; kindness; the free unmerited love and favor of God, the spring and

source of all the benefits men receive from Him.

Psalm 37:30-31 "The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh

of judgment. The law of God is in his heart; none of his steps shall

slide."

Proverbs 10:21 "The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom."

James 1:19 "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be SWIFT TO HEAR,

slow to speak, slow to wrath;"

NOTE

What an aspirational goal to be accomplished by God's people and the bride of the Lord Jesus Christ on a daily basis! This must guide all of our interactions. This must be memorized and committed to our thinking. Can you say this of all your interactions today? Have you LET your speech be ALWAYS with grace? In light of what our Saviour has done for us and how we fail Him as His bride on a daily basis while we ask for His grace at His throne daily...we sure ought to!