

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

BIBLE STUDY Theme: “Be Ready, God Wants to Use You”

I. SCRIPTURE – Colossians 4:2-6 (v.6) (NIV)

- ²Devote 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.

II. Key Words:

- Heresy – belief or opinion that is contrary to Christian doctrine
- Gnosticism – The term Gnosticism is derived from the Greek word gnosis, meaning “to know” or “knowledge”. This knowledge is not intellectual but mythical and comes through a special revelation by Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, or through his apostles. The secret knowledge reveals the key to salvation.

III. People, Places & Times:

- Colossae – was a prosperous city located on the southwestern section of the Lycus River Valley in Phrygia.
- Intermarriage between Jews and gentiles was not uncommon.

IV. Background:

- Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians while he was still imprisoned in Rome.
- Christian leaders in Colossae included Archippus, Philemon, and Epaphras, who founded the Colossian church.
- These leaders sought Paul's help in dealing with heresy in the city.
- The Gnostics did not believe in the incarnation.
- They also preached against the supremacy of Christ and His role in creation.
- Paul counters their belief by explaining redemption and clarifying Christ's identity.

V. Make it happen:

1. How should Christians practice their faith?

2. How should Christians pray (Col. 4:2)?

3. Why should Christians pray for their mentors (v.3)?

4. How should Christians live among non-believers (v.5)?

5. Describe the speech of a Christian and the content of their conversation (v.6)

VI. Follow the Spirit:

- What will you do as a result of this lesson?
