



Sermon Guide: Gospel Partnership in Christ - 05/24/26

Text(s): Colossians 4:2-18

Big Idea: *Because Christ is sovereign, supreme, and sufficient, His people (us) are called to live as a praying, wise, gracious, and gospel-partnering community.*

Summary of the Sermon - Colossians 4:2–18 Paul's call for steadfast prayer marked by persistence, watchfulness, and thankfulness, encourages Christians to depend fully on God and pray boldly for opportunities to share the gospel. Believers must live wisely before the world through gracious speech, integrity, and loving witness that reflects both the truth and grace of Christ. Paul's closing greetings reveal how God advances His kingdom through ordinary faithful people united in fellowship, service, prayer, and encouragement within the church. Believers are reminded that suffering for Christ is worthwhile, God's grace sustains His people through hardship, and the gospel produces transformed lives that display the glory of Christ to the world.

Discussion Questions

- 1. In Colossians 4:2–4, Paul calls believers to be steadfast, watchful, and thankful in prayer. Which of those three aspects of prayer do you find easiest, and which is hardest in your current season of life? Why?** Set aside a consistent 10–15 minute time each day this week specifically for prayer, focusing intentionally on persistence, watchfulness, and thanksgiving.
- 2. Paul asks for prayer not for comfort or release from prison, but for open doors to proclaim Christ. What does this reveal about Paul's priorities, and how does that challenge the way we normally pray?** Pray daily for one opportunity this week to speak about Christ or encourage someone spiritually, and be intentional about stepping into that opportunity when it comes.
- 3. The sermon emphasized that "ordinary people with willing hearts" are often how God accomplishes extraordinary kingdom work. How does that encourage or challenge you personally in your understanding of usefulness in God's kingdom?** Identify one ordinary but faithful way you can serve this week (encouraging someone, helping a neighbor, praying for another believer, or serving in church without seeking recognition.)
- 4. Colossians 4:5–6 teaches believers to walk wisely toward outsiders and let their speech be gracious and "seasoned with salt." What does gracious yet truthful Christian witness look like in today's culture?** Before speaking in a difficult conversation this week (online, at work, or at home), pause and ask: "Will my words reflect both the truth and grace of Christ?"
- 5. The sermon reminded us that you do not need to be a pastor, apologist, or evangelist to speak about Jesus. What fears or obstacles tend to keep Christians from sharing their faith openly?** Write down a brief testimony of what Christ has done in your life so you can be more prepared to share it naturally when opportunities arise.
- 6. Paul's final greetings show the importance of gospel partnership and deep fellowship in the church. Which relationships in your life have strengthened your walk with Christ, and how has God used Christian community to support you?** Reach out intentionally this week to encourage another believer through a phone call, text, prayer, meal, or invitation to spend time together.
- 7. Paul ends by saying, "Remember my chains," reminding believers that following Christ can be costly. How should Christians think about suffering, hardship, or sacrifice in light of the gospel and Christ's sufficiency?** Spend time this week praying specifically for persecuted believers, suffering Christians, or someone in your church who is walking through hardship, and consider one practical way to support them.