



**Pray, Live, Proclaim, Collaborate**

*Colossians 4:2-18*

12/29/2019

### THINKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

It's important to live thinking forward towards your **destination**. Start with the **end** in **mind**.

### PRAY

- Being **watchful**
- Being **thankful**
- That God would open doors to the message of the **Gospel**
- For **clarity**

### LIVE

- Be wise: don't **undermine** your message with your lifestyle
- **Make** the **most** of opportunities

### PROCLAIM

**Unapologetically**, but apologetically

In order to proclaim clearly:

- **Devote yourself** to loving God and others with *His* love.
- Speak full of **grace**
- **Seasoned** with **salt**
- So that: you may know *how* to **answer everyone**.

### COLLABORATE

Paul works with an international coalition of ministers and churches, **so do we**.

Being a church means being a **community** gathered around Christ and **working** with each other towards **God's purposes** in ourselves and in the world.

### HOW TO PRAY, LIVE, PROCLAIM, COLLABORATE

- **Salvation**: put your faith and followership in God through Christ.
- **Surrender**: exercise the habit of saying yes to God in all the parts of your life.
- **Sanctification**: Trust God to do the internal work in your life as you follow and obey Him.

*In relationship with God through Christ, prayerfully live for God, surrendering to God as He sanctifies you through His Spirit and works to proclaim through you in collaboration with His body – the church.*

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## Colossians 4:2-18

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. <sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

<sup>7</sup> Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. <sup>8</sup> I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. <sup>9</sup> He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here.

<sup>10</sup> My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) <sup>11</sup> Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. <sup>13</sup> I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup> Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. <sup>15</sup> Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

<sup>16</sup> After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea.

<sup>17</sup> Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord."

<sup>18</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

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