

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

COLOSSIANS 4:2-7

INTRODUCTION:

This is the last week of GREATER. Paul's concluding instruction to the Colossians is fitting. We've already discussed how the Gospel transforms our relationships in a general sense. We've applied this general teaching to the specific contexts of marriage, parenting & the workplace. Today's discussion will apply the Gospel to our relationships with those outside the church.

Paul gives two main encouragements. (1) Be steadfast in your prayers & (2) walk wisely among outsiders. Today's discussion will explore best practices on how to do both of these things well.

ICEBREAKER QUESTIONS: (OPTIONAL)

What has been your favorite part of the GREATER campaign thus far? Share one thing that's different in your life as a result of this spiritual growth campaign.

PLAY WEEK THREE VIDEO (10 MINUTES)

After watching the video, use the following discussion questions to encourage conversation. You don't have to ask every question. You can also ask your own.

DISCUSS:

1. Being an effective witness in the world starts with prayer. What does it mean to be “watchful” in prayer? How have you done this in your own life?
2. Paul asks them to pray for “open doors” to preach the Gospel & “clarity” as they preach it. Spend time praying these two things for all the spiritual leaders you know. Discuss who you’re praying for before doing so.
3. In our culture, what does it look like to “walk in wisdom” towards outsiders? How do we “make the best use of time” in our cultural setting?
4. Knowing the right answer is not the same as taking the right approach. (preaching vs persuasion) What IS the right approach when evangelizing someone?
5. Persuasive answers are “gracious, seasoned with salt, & person specific.”
 - a. In what way can we make our speech “gracious?”
 - b. How about speech that is acceptable & inoffensive (while maintaining the integrity of the Gospel)?
 - c. How’ve you taken different approaches with different people when sharing your faith? What should we look for when trying to understand where a person is coming from in their question?
6. Is there anyone in your life with whom you need to share the Gospel? Share a name. Pray for God’s help to be effective in your witness to that person.