



DISTINCTIVES

The word "DISTINCTIVES" is centered in a blue, sans-serif font. It is surrounded by a decorative arrangement of lines: a solid blue horizontal line passes through the text, and a solid blue vertical line passes through the top and bottom of the text. Eight dashed grey lines radiate outwards from the text, forming a starburst pattern. Above the text is a stylized blue swoosh logo.



# Distinctives

<b>CHRIST</b>	Gospel Grace
	Repentant Faith
	Holy Worship
<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	Biblical Authority
	Expository Preaching
<b>FAMILY</b>	Covenant Family
	<i>Servant Leadership</i>
	<i>Hungry Prayer</i>
	Kingdom Diversity
<b>MISSION</b>	Fruitful Discipleship
	Active Mercy
	Global Witness



# Colossians 4:2–4

<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.



# 1. Persistence (4:2)

<sup>2</sup> **Continue steadfastly** in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.



## 2. Togetherness (4:2)

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## 2. Togetherness (4:2)

### Acts 1:14

All these with one accord were **devoting themselves to prayer**, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.



## 2. Togetherness (4:2)

### Acts 2:42

And they **devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and **the prayers**.



## 2. Togetherness (4:2)

### Acts 6:4

“But we will **devote ourselves to prayer** and to the ministry of the word.”





## 2. Togetherness (4:2)

### Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, **be constant in prayer.**



## 3. Alertness (4:2)

<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, **being watchful in it** with thanksgiving.



## 3. Alertness (4:2)

### Matthew 26:41

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

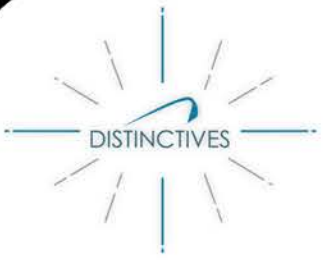


## 3. Alertness (4:2)

### Matthew 26:41

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- **Physically awake**
- **Spiritually alert**



## 4. Gratitude (4:2)

<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it **with thanksgiving.**



## 5. The Gospel (4:3–4)

<sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.



## 5. The Gospel (4:3–4)

<sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, **that God may open to us a door for the word**, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

- **An open door (4:3)**



## 5. The Gospel (4:3–4)

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- **An open door (4:3)**
- **An open mouth (4:3)**





## 5. The Gospel (4:3–4)

<sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> **that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.**

- **An open door (4:3)**
- **An open mouth (4:3)**
- **A clear presentation (4:4)**

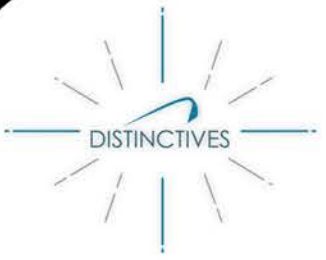


# Practical Praying



# Practical Praying

- **Pray Scripture**



# Practical Praying

- **Pray Scripture**
- **Pray the Psalms**



# Practical Praying

- **Pray Scripture**
- **Pray the Psalms**
- **Pray out loud**



# Practical Praying

- **Pray Scripture**
- **Pray the Psalms**
- **Pray out loud**
- **Write your prayers**



# Practical Praying

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- **Pray the Psalms**
- **Pray out loud**
- **Write your prayers**
- **Pray over lists**



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- **Pray over lists**
- **Pray by singing**





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- **Pray the Psalms**
- **Pray out loud**
- **Write your prayers**
- **Pray over lists**
- **Pray by singing**
- **Walk and pray**



# Practical Praying

- **Pray Scripture**
- **Pray the Psalms**
- **Pray out loud**
- **Write your prayers**
- **Pray over lists**
- **Pray by singing**
- **Walk and pray**
- **Fast and pray**



# Biblical Fasting

Biblical fasting is “a Christian’s voluntary abstinence from food for spiritual purposes.”

— Donald Whitney



# Fasting and Prayer

**Prayerful fasting *expresses* and *intensifies* our hunger for God and his work.**