

Colossians Part 7 HANDOUT

5/1/22

Written for a purpose, from a place - now they are both coming back together again...

COL. 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message...

- Paul and Timothy are saying, I want you to have a life of prayer, and here's how you can pray for us.

COL4:3-4 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. 4Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

- **Be conscious of God and walk with God**...Become a person of prayer - seamless relationship / conversation with God
- This was the apostle Paul asking for prayers to be clear - he was concerned that his message of a Savior would be clear

KEY: It's not about believing in something else, it's about being transformed into someone else.

COL. 4:5-6 Be 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.

- We should show grace and be a person of respect
- That doesn't mean that we leave the truth

KEY: It's not about what you know, it's about how what you know changes the way you live!

Paul now shifts gears in a new direction.

COL. 4:7-8 Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. 8I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts.

- Tychicus did this with great care - completed the task - faithful servant
- Maybe we don't have the most visible role or the most celebrated role, we wouldn't have the apostle Paul role in the story

KEY: God writes into the story the fine print of the ordinary people who God uses in extraordinary ways to push His message into the world.

COL. 4:10 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.)

- Mark has had a change of heart. He is now back in proximity with Paul. Paul is now vouching for a quitter - Mark. Mark is clearly being rehabilitated both as a worker for the gospel and as a companion of Paul

POINT: Your past is not disqualifying you from being in the story with God. It's not too late for you to be written into the story.