

“THE CHURCH”

Sunday, Aug 9, 2020

Colossians 4:2-18 (NASB)

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1. THE CHURCH MUST PERSIST IN PRAYER.

Colossians 4:2-18 (NASB) ² **Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert** in it with *an attitude of thanksgiving*; ³ **praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word**, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; ⁴ **that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.**

2. THE CHURCH MUST WALK IN WISDOM.

⁵ **Conduct yourselves with wisdom** toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

3. THE CHURCH MUST SPEAK WITH KINDNESS.

⁶ **Let your speech always be with grace**, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

4. THE CHURCH MUST BE PEOPLE WITH PURPOSE.

⁷ As to all my affairs, **Tychicus**, *our* beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you information. ⁸ *For* I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts; ⁹ and with him **Onesimus**, *our* faithful and beloved brother, who is one of your *number*. They will inform you about the whole situation here. ¹⁰ **Aristarchus**, my fellow prisoner, sends you his greetings; and *also* Barnabas's cousin **Mark** (about whom you received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him); ¹¹ and *also* Jesus who is called **Justus**; these are the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are from the circumcision, and they have proved to be an encouragement to me. ¹² **Epaphras**, who is one of your number, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God. ¹³ For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis. ¹⁴ **Luke**, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and *also* **Demas**. ¹⁵ **Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that is in her house.** ¹⁶ When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter *that is coming* from Laodicea. ¹⁷ Say to **Archippus**, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it." ¹⁸ **I, Paul**, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my imprisonment. Grace be with you.