



## Centrality of God in Prayer & Evangelism

Colossians 4.2-6

### Main Idea

The centrality of God will move us towards a steadfast prayer life and a lifestyle of evangelism that is wise towards outsiders.

### Overview

#### **I. You will continue to pray when you are steadfast for God**

- Steadfast or Devoted Prayer begins with a heavy dependence upon God
  - Unless you have the latter you will not have the former
- Being watchful means being alert
  - If you are inclined towards your own motives then you will not be watchful in prayer
    - The Disciples were commanded to be watchful and pray yet fell asleep (Matt. 26.41)
- You will never be truly Thankful until you see the abundance of what God has done
  - Thankfulness towards God is manifested in prayer
- Paul models the centrality of God in his prayer request
  - God is the one that opens the door
  - Gods word is what he wants to have answered and declared
  - His willingness to be imprisoned for all of this exposes his centrality of God

#### **II. You will declare Christ to outsiders when you want to make HIM clear**

- Walking in Wisdom towards outsiders is grounded in a desire to make every moment count in light of your love for God
  - Christians ought to be jealous for Gods glory to advance
  - Christians ought to want others to know the joys of the supremacy of Christ
- Christians are gracious towards outsiders because they once were outsiders themselves
- Speech should be “salty” so that people will notice a difference
  - When they do the Christian should be ready to give an answer for the Hope of Glory

### Questions

Discussion Starter: *Why is it we have trouble doing anything we do?*

1. Discuss some reasons we would typically give as to why we aren't “steadfast” or “devoted” in prayer.
2. What does it mean to be watchful in prayer? Give some examples of what this does and does not look like.
3. Why is Paul so insistent on “thankfulness” and what is its place in prayer?
4. How does Paul model the centrality of God in prayer given his prayer in Col. 1.9-12 & 4.3-4?
5. Discuss how the centrality of God in life will move towards a life of devoted prayer.

6. What does it look like to “walk in wisdom towards outsiders”? And how can you make the best use of time?
7. Discuss what gracious, salty speech sounds like and how it might beg a question.
8. What does it mean that we should “know how you ought to answer each person”?
9. How does the centrality of God move us towards bold evangelism?

Accountability Question: *Discuss prayer lives and the lost that around you.*