

Study Guide

# COLOSSIANS

Always. Only. Jesus.

## Jesus, Our Mission | Colossians 4:2-6

<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.

<sup>5</sup>Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. <sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

### Introduction

Because of who Jesus is and what Jesus has done on our behalf (Colossians 1-2), He alone has the right to be Lord over our lives.

And that includes every part and every moment of our every day lives: our family, our work, and our positions of authority.

As our desires and thoughts are set on things above where Jesus is at the right hand of God, all that we are and do is surrendered to Jesus. Always. Only. Jesus.

Pray for International Missions

[imb.org/pray](http://imb.org/pray)



Pray for North America Missions

[namb.net/pray](http://namb.net/pray)



Pray for the Persecuted

[persecution.com](http://persecution.com)



#### The BIG Idea:

Your life mission is for others to see and hear  
Always. Only. Jesus. from you.

#### Pray Missionally (2-4)

Pray perseveringly (2A).

Pray alertly (2B).

Pray thankfully (2C).

Pray gospely (3-4).

#### Live Missionally (5-6)

Walk wisely (5).

Speak graciously (6).

Give me, O Lord,

a soul that knows you,

a heart that loves you,

a mind that think about your works,

eyes that see you,

a tongue that proclaims you.

*from a 9<sup>th</sup> century prayer book*

## Let's Think About It

Reflecting on your past week, what would an outside observer say you are most passionate about?

The sermon's Big Idea is that your life mission is for others to see and hear Always. Only. Jesus. from you. In what specific area of your life (work, home, hobbies, etc.) do you need to be more intentional in your gospel witness?

### Praying Missionally

Paul asked for prayer not for his physical comfort in prison, but for the gospel to flourish through his chains. How does this challenge the way you typically pray during difficult seasons like health or money problems?

What does it look like practically to be "alert" or "watchful" in prayer regarding our local culture and "lostness"?

"Grateful hearts seize the moment... grumbling hearts forfeit the moment." How does practicing thankfulness for your salvation change your perspective on sharing the gospel with others?

### Living Missionally

The sermon mentions "redeeming the time" or "snapping up" gospel opportunities like a sale. Can you share a time when you saw a "gospel opportunity" but didn't take it? What held you back?

Our speech is meant to be "seasoned with salt." How can we check ourselves to ensure our words aren't actually seasoned with "anger, bitterness, or sarcasm" instead?

People should be compelled to ask believers why they live and talk differently. Has anyone recently asked you a question about your faith or your reaction to a situation? If not, do you think your life currently provokes those questions?

### Part 4: Personal Application

Two Questions:

1. How much time do you actually spend talking with God?
2. How much of that time is focused on "gospel/missional" requests rather than just personal needs?

Action Step: Identify one "open door" you are currently praying for—perhaps a specific person or a specific place where you want to declare the "mystery of Christ." Are you ready for the open door?

One eager hope, one passionate desire,  
One grand, all-unifying aim —  
Albeit in doubt's dark night  
or pain's fierce fire —  
Let me bring glory to his name.

Frank Houghton (1894-1972)

Go forth and tell!  
O church of God, awake!

Go forth and tell!  
God's saving news to all the nations take:

Proclaim Christ Jesus, Savior, Lord and King,  
That all the world his glorious praise may sing.

James E. Seddon