

We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, May 10, 2026



sermon: "Purposeful Prayer" Colossians 4:2-6

Big Idea: Scripture teaches us how to pray with more purpose, focus, and joy.

I. Prayer Posture (v. 2)

A. One easily overlooked aspect of prayer is the posture of our heart when praying. The Bible instructs us to pray with an approach that is knowledgeable, humble and honest. Our posture should be:

1. Watchful – Literally, stay awake. This is an awareness of God's presence and a focus on His Word.
2. Thankful (cf. 1 Thes. 5:16-18) – This is a gratitude that stems from a recognition of God's grace and goodness.
3. Steadfast (cf. Matt. 7:7-11) – Be persistent. Don't ever give up in prayer.

B. Another important posture prayer takes is recognizing:

1. God's sovereignty (cf. Js. 4:1-3) – God will not act in any way that violates His nature, character, or decrees.
2. God's purpose (cf. Pr. 19:21) – God has a larger picture in mind, and we need to keep that in mind when we pray.
3. Jesus' example and instruction on prayer (cf. Lk. 11:1).

II. Purposeful Prayer (vv. 3-6)

A. There is no limit to the things for which we can pray, but what examples do we see in Scripture that can help us be more strategic and focused in our prayer life? A few include:

1. Access (v. 3; cf. Rev. 3:8) – That God would "open doors" for all types of ministry work.
2. Clarity (v. 4) – That we don't complicate or confuse the Gospel message.
3. Wisdom (vv. 4-5) – That God's Word and the Holy Spirit would inform and strengthen our efforts.
4. Impact – That God's Word would transform hearts.
5. Conduct (v. 5; cf. 1 Pet. 3:15-17) – That our actions would match our proclamation and Jesus' example.
6. Boldness (v. 6; cf. Eph. 6:18-19) – That we would not shrink from the message of the Gospel.
7. God's glory (cf. Eph. 1:15-19) – That above everything else God's glory is made manifest among all.

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