

Sunday Morning 9/21/25

(STOPWATCH) Pause for 1 minute.....

Long.....But short time frame.

1,440 minutes in a day.

10,080 minutes in a week.

43,800 minutes in a month.

525,600 minutes in a calendar year.

Turn with me to Colossians 4.

Colossians was inspired by God and wrote by Paul. Paul wrote this to the believers in the church of Colosae. He address a few things in the book of Colossians in regards to how to live as believers. We will be spending time in just 5 verses. 5 verses packed full of application that I hope we can find for ourselves today.

PRAY

READ Colossians 4:2

In this verse, Paul points towards how to have an effective prayer life. A deeper spiritual connection that is inspired and facilitated by the Holy Spirit.

This verse helps us see three challenges that we tend to have when it comes to prayer.

1. Lack of commitment to pray.

We are to be DEVOTED to prayer.

Give all or a large part of one's time or resources to.

There are some things in life that some people are devoted to than others. And that's okay. But this is something that applies to all followers of Christ. Be known as ones who are devoted to prayer.

2. Distracted prayer. We can sometimes just go through the motions. Our minds are on other things while doing something else. Sleepy prayer. You not only put others to sleep, but even yourself.

We must be ALERT in prayer.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 “PRAY CONSTANTLY” Now that takes devotion.

We must have intentionality with our prayers. Focusing our heart and mind on God and being prepared to move when He says to move. Always ready to be the hands and feet to our prayers when those times come.

### 3. Request centered prayer.

We should approach prayer with hearts full of thankfulness.

I am not saying giving your request to God is bad. God tells us through Scripture that we are to make our requests made known to Him.

But if the scale tips more to the request side than the thankfulness side, we may be a bit off balance. No matter how long of a list our requests may be, it will never reach to the level of things that we have to express thankfulness to God for.

Please don't miss hear me on this. Requests are not bad..... But we mustn't let our needs be the center of our prayer. But let it be filled with thankfulness. Thankfulness to God, who is worthy of our praise.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 "REJOICE ALWAYS" Praise centered prayer.

(TITLE SLIDE)

READ Colossians 4:3-4

While you are devoted to prayer and staying alert with thanksgiving, please pray for the opportunities to share the mystery of Christ. Paul was urging them to pray for the doors to be opened that can be stepped through and make the Gospel of Jesus Christ known to others.

It is important to notice the importance of making the Gospel known to those who don't know. The Gospel is for all people. And it should not be kept a mystery from others.

Paul had a longing desire to continue doing this. Paul was in chains when he wrote this. You can see the confidence in this as Paul knows that even these chains were not going to stop him from sharing the Gospel and inspiring others to do the same.

NOTHING STOPPED JESUS FROM FULFILLING HIS PURPOSE.

GOSPEL

The word itself isn't in the sentence. But you see that Paul was DEVOTED to this because he says at the end of verse 4, "so that I may make it known as I should."

The last two verses here tells us the how to when it comes to sharing the Good News with others.

READ Colossians 4:5-6

Every word and action from us as believers must be intentional. Sometimes this takes some extra patience. Do you ever feel like you don't have time to be patient?

Ephesians 5:15-17

We have to be consistent with how we live as Ambassadors for Christ here on this earth.

We must make the most of the time that we have to.....

PRAY FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE THE GOSPEL

ACTUALLY TAKE AHOLD OF THOSE GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES

BE PATIENT AND INTENTIONAL WITH OTHERS.

I found a video that helps us understand the concept of time a little bit differently.

Let's watch this video....

I find it amazing that one video can be terrifying and inspiring at the same time.

That video talks about each day. At the beginning of the message I was talking about minutes.

In the average life span of 78 years, you have 40,996,800 minutes.

READ BACK OF NOTES WITH EVERYONE

How much of these minutes do you have left. Some of us will be shorter than 78 years. And some will be more. But what are you going to devote most of your time to that you have left?

James 4:14

40 Days To Unceasing Prayer

Praise and Prayer – Next Sunday at 6:00pm

Prayer Summit