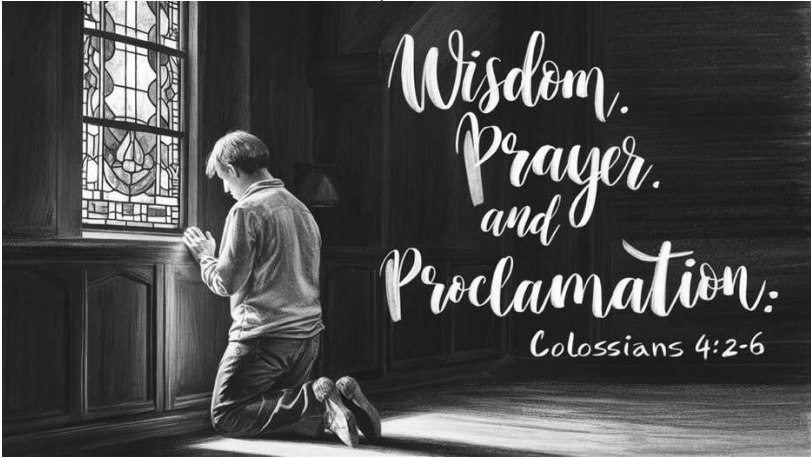


Wisdom, Prayer and Proclamation

June 16, 2024 | *Colossians 4:2-6*



V2: Prayer of Thanksgiving | Reference: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Ephesians 6:18, Philippians 4:6, Romans 12:12*

Idea: Paul writes on the importance of continuous, vigilant prayer. Prayer with a heart of gratitude.

Action: Reflect on your prayer life. Be encouraged to be watchful and have a heart of gratitude towards the Lord.

V3: Prayer for the Opportunity to Declare Christ | Reference: *Ephesians 6:19-20, 2 Thessalonians 3:1, 1 Corinthians 16:9, Acts 14:27*

Idea: Paul asks for prayers for doors to open (opportunities) to share the Gospel. In doing this, he can proclaim the mystery of Christ.

Action: Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel to others. Ask God to open doors for conversations about Christ. Look for those opportunities in your interactions with others.

V4: Make the Message Clear | Reference: *1 Corinthians 2:4, 2 Corinthians 4:2, Ephesians 6:19, Colossians 1:28*

Idea: The Apostle Paul requests for pray to make the message of Christ clear to others. Clarity in preaching, teaching, evangelism and ministry is important.

Action: When sharing the good news or your testimony, be encouraged to speak clearly and concisely. The Gospel is simple: Believe and be saved. Avoid overcomplicating the message. Practice explaining your faith in simple terms.

Ontario Community Church: Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.

John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life."

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V5: Reach Out to Outsiders | Best Use of Time | Reference:

Ephesians 5:15-16, Matthew 10:16, James 3:13, Proverbs 11:30

Idea: Paul encourages the Colossians to walk in wisdom towards outsiders (non-believers). Doing this is making the best use of the time. This involves living out God's wisdom in our interactions with others.

Action: Engage with your community wisely and intentionally. Look for ways to live out your faith and demonstrate Christ's love through your words and actions. Make every interaction count by showing qualities of the new life in Christ.

V6: Speak Graciously with Salt | Respond to Questions |

Reference: *Ephesians 4:29, Matthew 5:13, 1 Peter 3:15, Proverbs 15:1*

Idea: Our speech should always be gracious (full of God's grace) and seasoned with salt (as we, disciples of Christ, are salt of the earth). Let us be ready to respond to others with the wisdom and grace of God.

Action: Be mindful of your words. Speak with grace and truth. Engage with others in meaningful and encouraging conversations. Share in the light, love, and truth of Christ. Prepare yourself to answer questions about your faith. Your response (your words) can have a profound impact on others.

The Gospel Message Simplified in the Scriptures: **1 Corinthians 15:3-4:**

“Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures (1), that he was buried (2), that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures (3).”

1. Genesis 22:8, Exodus 12:46* (The Passover lamb), Psalm 22:16*, Psalm 69:21*, Isaiah 53:4-6, Zechariah 12:10
 - a. * = before Christ's death
2. Isaiah 53:9 (Joseph of Arimathea see Matthew 27:57-60).
3. Psalm 16:10, Isaiah 53:10-12, Jonah 1:17, Job 19:25-27.

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