

STAYING IN COMMUNICATION WITH GOD.

Sunday, January 29, 2023

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Colossians 4:2-6-NIV

2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

'Devote yourselves to prayer'

Passion - *Be faithful to pray as intercessors...*

The word **devote** or (continue-KJV) Paul uses is '*proskartereō* - *pros-kar-ter-eh'-o* - which means to attend to something constantly.

The idea of *praying without ceasing*, has to do of practicing the presence of God.

...being watchful and thankful...

Passion - *who are fully alert and giving thanks to God.*

Watch - *give strict attention to, be cautious, active...*

And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, ...

Passion - *And please pray for me, that God will open a door of opportunity for us to preach the revelation of the mystery of Christ,*

Passion - *Pray that I would unfold and reveal fully this mystery, for that is my delightful assignment...*

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

Passion - Walk in the wisdom of God as you live before the unbelievers and make it your duty to make him known.

Passion - *Let every word you speak be drenched with grace and tempered with truth and clarity. For then you will be prepared to give a respectful answer to anyone who asks about your faith.*

The Greeks called salt - *halas* – *prudence (using wisdom, being careful, using tact)* - *charis* — *grace* — because it gave flavor to things.

Firstly, to...make the most of every opportunity.

Passion - *and make it your duty to make him known.*

Secondly, that our conversation 'be always full of grace'.

Passion - *Let every word you speak be drenched with grace...*

Thirdly, ...then we will know how to answer everyone.

Passion - *For then you will be prepared to give a respectful answer to anyone who asks about your faith.*

Proverbs 11: 2 says that '*with pride comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom*'.