

Colossians 4:2-18 Lesson 5

Have you ever had to give a speech or talk of any kind- testimony, toast or tribute at wedding or funeral, your wedding vows, job interview, etc.? How did you prepare? How did you overcome your fear or manage to do it? (public speaking is the number one fear of mankind... more than death ☺)

Col 2:2-6 List the commands Paul gives to the Colossians?

V2 Int- Look at the Amp translation- what words do they use for “steadfastly” and “watchful” ?

Int- Why do we need to be thankful? App- Do you find it hard to remember to be thankful?

A-How would you describe your prayer life? Why is a consistent prayer life so difficult for EVERYONE? (Just look at all the books on prayer). What is **one** thing you could do to improve your prayer life?

V3-Who opens the door for the Word? What does God use to do that?

Int- Review the “mystery” of Christ- Col 1:26-27, 2:2-3, **Romans 16:25**, Pastor Ryan’s sermon Feb 19th.

I imagine Luke 24:13-35... Christ sharing this mystery with those two.

V4- What does Paul want to make clear? (what is the “it”)

App- What does God do when we share the gospel? What does He want us to do?

V5- Int- What are other words for “walk”?

App-How do we get this “wisdom”= knowledge +understanding +discernment (when and how to use this knowledge)

Int-Who are the outsiders? What would be the “time” referred to here? (see Amp)?

App- What are ways we can share the gospel and Christ with those around us?

V6- Int- How would you describe “gracious” speech?

Describe what salt can do? How would this apply to speaking?

Consistency of life must be followed by consistency of speech. Paul is not speaking here of preaching the gospel, but general conversation. Believers’ speech must always be with grace, as was Christ’s (Luke 4:22). There is no place for those things that characterize the unredeemed mouth. Whether undergoing persecution, stress, difficulty, or injustice, whether with your spouse, children, believers, or unbelievers—in all circumstances believers are to make gracious speech a habit. To speak with grace means to say what is spiritual, wholesome, fitting, kind, sensitive, purposeful, complementary, gentle, truthful, loving, and. Salt can sting when rubbed into a wound (cf. Prov. 27:6). It also prevents corruption. Salt also adds flavour. John MacArthur

4: 7-17

Int- What do you see in this passage as to **why these people** are mentioned?

Sooo who were they? (perhaps look at the passages in context and not just the verses listed if you would like to know more about these people)

If you don't have time to look at all of these people, choose 2 or 3 to spend more time. Also, see the comments Paul is making about them. Tychicus and Epaphras get noted attention. (The following is taken from an internet document called "66 Book by book Bible Handouts" and Raised Together by Gloria Furman_

Tychicus- Acts 20:4, Eph 6:21, Col. 4:7-8, Titus 3:12

Onesimus- Philemon 10-12

Aristarchus- Col. 4:10, Acts 19:29, 20:4, 27:2

Mark- Acts 12:11-2, 13:2-5, 13:13, 15:36-40, (before) 2 Tim. 4:11, 1 Peter 5:13 (after)

Jesus- nicknamed Justus which means righteous...cool nickname

Epaphras- Col. 1:7, 4:12-13, Philemon 23

Luke- well known to us – he finished well with Paul 2 Tim. 4:11

Demas- he did not finish well it seems 2 Tim.4:9-11

Nympha- what did she do

Archippus- Philemon 2 -commentators are not sure if this was just a general encouragement of ministry or if he was being "scolded".

Application question: When you read what Paul writes about Epaphras, what do you think about your own love for fellow believers and your own family? How do they know you love them... as a body and as individuals?

We read earlier in Colossians that Paul as a minister/servant of the gospel is to preach and bring the congregation to maturity. How are we as members to do the same? What could you do personally?

Paul had deep relationships with many people? How do we make these relationships? How would you like to establish these kinds of relationships?