

Rooted and Built Up—Devote Yourself

Study Questions

Colossians 4:2-6

Warm-up

1) Think of a time when you were working with a team (possibly at work, with family, with friends, or even with strangers).

What's an example of a time that you worked hard to help your team, but it didn't end up being very helpful?

What was communication like between you and others on the team at that time?

A little deeper

2) [Colossians 4:2-4] This passage asks its listeners to devote themselves in prayer, being watchful and thankful. **What does it mean to be watchful in prayer? Who or what are we watching for?** (It may help to search for verses that use the word “watch”, especially through the Psalms.) **Why is it important to regularly be watchful and thankful in prayer?**

3) [Colossians 4:3-4] We are to be diligent in prayer for those preaching the gospel, as we're being watchful and thankful. **Why is it important to be praying for other Christians who are working very much isolated from the rest of the Body of Christ (such as missionaries)?**

4) [Colossians 4:5] This verse talks about being wise and seizing opportunities with outsiders. **What sorts of opportunities are we supposed to be seizing?**

What are some ways a Christian's witness can be made ineffective if they're not careful? How can we be wise to keep this from happening?

5) [Colossians 4:6] **What does it mean for a conversation to be full of grace and seasoned with salt?**

How can such conversation help us to be wise/watchful and seize opportunities with outsiders?

When answering others, what is more important than being right or being nice?

Bringing it home

6) **What does being devoted in prayer mean to you? How close does your prayer life come to matching that picture?**

If your prayer life is lacking, what is one specific thing you believe you should do to improve it?

7) While having a regular discipline of prayer is important, prayer doesn't have to be scheduled or structured. Some of the best prayer is spontaneous and short. **Can you think of any situations that you might train yourself to use as “triggers” for prayer—events that could help you season parts of your days that would otherwise be spiritually bland?**

Reflection and Prayer

8) **Take a moment to reflect on the day, finding things worth being watchful and thankful over. Pray together about those things, remembering to also pray about those you know who are spreading the gospel far away from home.**