

Week of Nov 18 - Colossians 4:2-6

Introduction / Icebreaker

On Purpose

- Gary shared an example of being “on mission” and motivated to buy a new gadget. What in your past has motivated you to do things that you wouldn’t otherwise do?

Scripture / Sermon Discussion

Continue steadfastly in prayer (4:2)

- What *does* praying continually look like? How have you sought to incorporate prayer in your days? What has worked / hasn’t worked?

“...being watchful in it...” (4:2b)

- What ways have you noticed the kingdom of God expanding around you? Share any stories you may have with the group in order to inspire each other, and then pray that God would give you eyes to see what he’s doing.

Prayer shows heart

- Paul’s prayer requests in this passage show his heart for the gospel and mission of Christ. Imagine for a moment that there was an assistant who was transcribing all your prayers for a given month. If a stranger were to find a copy and read that transcript of your prayers, what would they conclude about your heart?

Control

- Gary mentioned that when we *think* we have things under control we don’t see a need for God—and therefore don’t pray / pray less. Do you agree? Why or why not?

”I got it, I got it”

- Thinking of the Seinfeld illustration of a man holding a mattress tied to the top of his car with his arm, where do you *imagine* you have control over a situation and really don't?
 - How could you turn this “illusion of control” into a prayer?

Outsiders

- How are you at treating “outsiders”? Think through the following categories of people and discuss the questions below:
 - Servers at restaurants / coffee shops
 - Employees at the grocery store
 - Strangers waiting in line with you
 - Homeless people
 - Other drivers on the road
 - Co-workers / fellow students
 - Family members who don't know Jesus
 - (Add your own category...)

Follow-up questions:

- Based upon their interactions with you, would they see Christ in you?
- How could you treat them better?
- How could you seek to engage them in conversation? What would you say?

Gospel

- We need to know the gospel in order to be able to apply it to someone's life (after listening to them, of course). What is the gospel?

If you need help, try something like:

- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/what-is-the-gospel-2/>
- <https://carm.org/what-gospel>
- <https://www.lifein6words.com/the-g-o-s-p-e-l-message-explained/>
- <https://www.9marks.org/answer/what-gospel/>

Prayer

Life Itself...

- Take some time to thank God and acknowledge him as the creator of all life.

Intercession

- Who are people you know that are actively engaging with others for the gospel of Christ? Pray for them by name and ask that God would open doors for them to keep declaring Christ and move mightily through their mission.

Opportunities

- Who are some “outsiders” that you have interaction with in your life? Share a few examples with the group and pray for opportunities to engage and have conversations with them.

Remember the point

- We can't muster this kind of behaviour on our own. It's God working in us, revealing to us what he's doing, giving us hearts for his mission and kingdom. Pray for a growth in faith and vision to see all of life as an opportunity for mission.