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***RCC Phoenix – 10.9.22 – Colossians (Week 9)***

**Colossians 4:2-4 NLT**

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should.”

1. Devote yourselves to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Definition of “Devote” (proskarteréō):

* to join, adhere to; to be ready; to give attention, be faithful; to spend much time together

1. Pray with an alert **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and grateful heart.

Pay attention to the convictions, leadings, people, and directions in your heart when you pray.

1. Pray for opportunities to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the Gospel.
2. Pray for opportunities to proclaim the Gospel **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Things we must be immediately prepared to share:

1. What is the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**?
2. How **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** my life.

**Colossians 4:5-6 NLT**

“Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.”

1. Live **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** among non-believers.

Definition of “Wisely” (sophía):

* broad and full of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**; used in the knowledge of very diverse matters
* wisdom, both **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** & divine

1. Make the most of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** opportunity.

Sometimes, making the most of every opportunity means:

* Changing your schedule.
* Going out of your way.
* Shaking up your routine.
* Obediently leaving a good thing.

**Colossians 4:7-16 NLT**

“Tychicus will give you a full report about how I am getting along. He is a beloved brother and faithful helper who serves with me in the Lord’s work. I have sent him to you for this very purpose—to let you know how we are doing and to encourage you. I am also sending Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, one of your own people. He and Tychicus will tell you everything that’s happening here. Aristarchus, who is in prison with me, sends you his greetings, and so does Mark, Barnabas’s cousin. As you were instructed before, make Mark welcome if he comes your way. Jesus (the one we call Justus) also sends his greetings. These are the only Jewish believers among my co-workers; they are working with me here for the Kingdom of God. And what a comfort they have been! Epaphras, a member of your own fellowship and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends you his greetings. He always prays earnestly for you, asking God to make you strong and perfect, fully confident that you are following the whole will of God. I can assure you that he prays hard for you and also for the believers in Laodicea and Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved doctor, sends his greetings, and so does Demas. Please give my greetings to our brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church that meets in her house. After you have read this letter, pass it on to the church at Laodicea so they can read it, too. And you should read the letter I wrote to them.”

1. Do not **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

* Tychicus – A faithful helper, servant & messenger.
* Onesimus – A faithful brother. One of your own.
* Aristarchus & Mark – Prisoner for preaching the Gospel.
* Justus – Jewish Believer & co-worker with Paul.
* Epaphras – Founder of the Colossian church. A prayer warrior.
* Luke – A Beloved Doctor.
* Demas – Gentile Believer & Paul’s helper.
* Timothy – Young minister/pastor being trained by Paul.

Everyone has a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in God’s Plan.

**Colossians 4:17 NLT**

“And say to Archippus, “Be sure to carry out the ministry the Lord gave you.”

1. Carry out what the Lord has **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** you to do.

*Reflection Question:* Are you doing what the Lord has instructed you to do?