

Prayer Basics

Making Your Communication with God Purposeful



1. _____ (v.2a)

2. _____ (v.2b)

3. **Keep** _____ (v.2c)

4. **Make** _____ (vv.3-4)

Colossians 4:2-4

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. (NIV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. After hearing the challenge of Colossians 4:2, what is your specific resolve as it relates to your investment in prayer?
2. What keeps you from praying more often? What distractions do you face when you pray?

What countermeasures can you employ to guard your prayer time?

3. Make a list of ten things for which you are thankful. Preface your prayer time with one or two of these items each time you pray this week (including your prayers before meals).

4. What will you do to be more specific in making requests to God this week?
5. Write out a heartfelt prayer regarding your prayer life. Make a prayer reminder that prompts you to pray this prayer each day.

Read through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.

Sunday

1Sam. 13-14 & Ac.2

Monday

1Sam. 15-16 & Ac.3

Tuesday

1Sam. 17-18 & Ac.4

Wednesday

1Sam. 19-20 & Ac.5

Thursday

1Sam.21-22 & Ac.6

Friday

1Sam.23-24 & Ac.7

Saturday

1Sam.25-26 & Ac.8

Here are some resources which may help you understand and implement the truths presented in this week's sermon.

- Bounds, E. M. **The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer.** Baker Books, 1990.
- Hiebert, D. Edmond. **Working with God Through Intercessory Prayer.** BJU Press, 1991.
- Hybels, Bill. **Too Busy Not to Pray: Slowing Down to Be With God.** InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Jeremiah, David. **Prayer: The Great Adventure.** Multnomah Publishers, 1997.
- Lindsell, Harold. **When You Pray.** Tyndale House, 1969.
- Lockyer, Herbert. **All the Prayers of the Bible.** Zondervan Publishing House, 1959.
- MacArthur, John. **Jesus' Pattern of Prayer.** Moody Press, 1981.
- Moody, D. L. **Prevailing Prayer.** Moody Press, 1987.
- Murray, Andrew. **The Best of Andrew Murray on Prayer.** Barbour Publishing, 1997.
- Spurgeon, Charles H. **The Power of Prayer in a Believer's Life.** Reprint. Emerald Books, 1996.
- _____. **Power in Praising God.** Whitaker House, 1998.
- Strauss, Lehman. **Sense and Nonsense About Prayer.** Moody Press, 1974.
- Torrey, R. A. **How to Pray.** Whitaker House, 1983.
- Torrey, R. A., C. H. Spurgeon, et al. **A Closer Walk with God: Prayer as a Way of Life.** Reprint. Emerald Books, 1997.