

Colossians 4:2-6

"Prayers to God for the Preaching to People"

Intro: The difficulty of prayer

-The Christian's prayer time: Despised by Satan because God uses prayer to drive him out.

-The first great 'prayer help' for the Christian: The word of God in general and the Psalms in particular.

-A second great 'prayer help' for the Christian: The great uninspired hymns of the faith.

-Another great difficulty for many Christians: Witnessing for Jesus Christ.

*Christians must _____ for the success of the gospel, _____ the gospel through godly living, _____ of the gospel, and _____ the gospel.

-Verse 2: Yet another call from God to live in the realm of prayer.

-Richard Alleine: "If the devil can but keep you out of your closets, he will not fear to meet you in the field. He will not mind you standing on your feet if he can keep you from falling on your knees."

-The disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane: Failed to be watchful in prayer.

-The theme of 'thanksgiving': Repeatedly emphasized by Paul in the previous chapter.

-Paul's request for prayer from his prison cell: Not 'pray that God would open the doors of the prison,' but pray that God would open a door for the word of God.'

-Our sovereign God: Ordained the ends that He forever had in mind along with the means to those ends.

-One great prayer for the gospel in our day: The prayer that God would work by and with His gospel in giving us a great harvest season.

-The need for wisdom: Apparent in balancing the call to be on guard with regard to the company we keep and the call to faithfully serve as ambassadors for Christ.

-Witnessing for Christ in Scripture: Comes naturally to those who just found Christ.

-Personal Application: