

Study: A Useful Vessel

Text: Colossians 4:2-4

PUTTING ON CHRIST IN OUR PRAYER LIFE

Mission Statement: *to passionately serve GOD and to compassionately serve others—ALL to the glory of GOD!*

Memory verse: **2 Timothy 2:21** If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet [*useful*] for the **Master's** use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

† Usefulness In Our _____ Life (Colossians 4:2-4)

The challenge for us is—to LOOK *DISTINCTLY* LIKE CHRIST in our prayer lives!

Q: What does your prayer life look like?

I. The _____ of our PRAYER LIFE (v. 2)

A. Be _____ in prayer

To “*continue in prayer*” is to be faithful or courageously _____.

Cf. Acts 2:42

Acts 6:4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word.

Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Philippians 4:6

B. Be _____ in prayer

This word “*watch*” carries the idea of staying _____, be alert, pay attention.

Matthew 26:41 Watch [*be vigilant*] and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

Cf. 1 Peter 5:8

C. Be _____ in prayer

The attitude gratitude. I see there are two aspects of this attitude in prayer. Gratitude for what God has _____ and what God will _____.

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of **God**, which [*sur*]passeth [*transcends*] all understanding, shall keep [*guard*] your hearts and minds through **Christ Jesus**.

II. The _____ of our PRAYER LIFE (v. 3-4)

Q: What do you pray for? What is the content of your prayers?

A. Pray for _____ (v. 3)

As a servant, a *doulos* of Jesus Christ he was _____ NOT to his own will but to the will of his Master. He wanted what Christ wanted.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live *is* **Christ**, and to die *is* gain.

Cf. Matthew 8:2

James 4:2-3 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. **3** Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss [*wrong motives / evil manner*], that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

B. Pray for _____ (v. 4)

Q: What does your prayer life look like?

What is my next step?

(*Put off*) What must I put off that is both hinder my walk with Christ or someone else's?

(*Renew your mind*) What qualities or Words of Christ must I meditate upon?

(*Put on*) What qualities of Christ must I seek to have as a characteristic of my life?

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it – James 1:21-25
Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ – Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF**)

2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?

3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?

 - d. What example to follow?

4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew**)

5. In light of what I have heard from God,... (**Put ON**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)

OUR MISSION: *Passionately Serve God & Compassionately Serve Others—
ALL to the Glory of GOD*

Sermon Notes

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it – James 1:21-25
Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ – Eph. 4:22-24

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