

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-35 "Prayers For Open Doors"

05/31/2026

COL 4:2-4 "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in [your prayers] with thanksgiving.

At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— ⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak."

To accomplish his mission, Paul knew he needed more than his own strength, more than his fortitude, even more than his personal anointing... He needed the prayers of others!

- "Continue steadfastly [in prayer] ... - Proskartereo - used of persistent endurance and faithfulness to a responsibility - esp. in reference to prayer ACTS 1:14; 2:42; 6:4; ROM. 12:12 - Prayer is a "responsibility" but it not always easy... convenient
- "Being watchful... - Gregoreo - to be alert / awake / vigilant - as a soldier on watch... being attentive to every detail
- "With thanksgiving... - Eucharistia - gratitude for grace that has been given - An awareness of grace received with expectation of grace to come...
- THAT God may open a door for the Word... - Paul depended on God to "open or close doors" - to grant the opportunity
We can "ask" but God alone who has the authority to Open / Close
 - REV 3:7-8 ⁷ "And to the ANGEL of the CHURCH in Philadelphia write: 'The words of THE HOLY ONE, THE TRUE ONE, who has the KEY OF DAVID, who opens, and no one will shut, who shuts, and no one opens. "I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut."

- 1 COR 16:8-9 But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries (one who lays in the way / against you)
- 1 THESS 2:17-18 "...we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. When God has "opened a door" there may be such strong opposition that it "Hinders - cuts into the road" - Satan can't "close the Door"... but he can interfere... Hinder YET God will "make a new way to accomplish the goal" Paul couldn't be there "in person" So... God gave him the Words (that were necessary) to write in LETTERS (1 & 2 TH) WE have those LETTERS today ... a "Better WAY"

- To declare the mystery of Christ... - to freely explain the Grace of THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST to both Jew and Gentile
- THAT I MAY make it clear... [Make it conspicuous ... to be readily seen so that it can be understood] The message must be made apparent / manifest / easily seen and revealed so that people know what they are hearing and why it matters...
- As I ought to speak [as is necessary] - What needs to be said... what is required to communicate efficiently to the hearers...

COL 2:5-6 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, [what is appropriate w/o offense on your part]
SO THAT you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Paul knew his own prayers were essential... BUT he needed others to join with him... EVEN THOUGH they may not know where he was nor what exactly he needed to say...

PREACHERS NEED PRAYER! ...

BELIEVERS NEED PRAYER!