



STUDY GUIDE

How The Gospel Impacts Our Praying & Speaking

Colossians 4:2-6

Week of June 4, 2017

engage it

1. **Think back on a time when you were memorably excited about trying or starting something new. What fueled that excitement and energy?**
2. **When you begin a new adventure or new way of life, what is it that keeps you from turning back?**

unpack it

3. **Read Colossians 4:2-6. In advancing the gospel, what role is played by prayer?**
4. **What was the goal of Paul's life and at what cost? How would our community be different if we all shared Paul's drive?**

- 5. Why must we be wise and careful in telling others about Jesus? When have you seen evangelism go horribly wrong in our culture because Paul's teaching on wise words wasn't followed?**
- 6. In which situations is it easiest for you to talk gracefully, using language seasoned with salt? In which situations is it most challenging?**
- 7. What does it mean to conduct yourselves with wisdom toward those who are not followers of Jesus? In what specific ways can you grow in your humility and integrity as you relate to "outsiders"?**
- 8. What is the best way to keep ourselves sharp, alert, and ready to share our faith?**
- 9. Read Ephesians 6:18-20. What are some of the most common excuses Christians give for not sharing the gospel?**
- 10. Paul prays a similar prayer to God in verse 19 as he did in Colossians 4:4. How might these two prayers help us overcome some of the excuses we often make for not sharing the gospel?**

11. One of the most common excuses people give for not sharing the gospel is fear of people--we worry about how others will respond if we share Christ with them. Why do we find it intimidating to speak the gospel to others? What does that tell us about the condition of our hearts?

12. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. If we realize that salvation is the work of God, how can that help us grow in our boldness in proclaiming Christ?

live it

13. How does a better understanding of Jesus' forgiveness in your life move you to develop relationships with people who don't know Him?

14. What would change if you saw yourself (first and foremost) as one sent by God, on His mission to bring people to Jesus? How could living on mission with God help you share the gospel in your community and beyond?