

## ABOUT CHRIST: OUR MESSAGE

### I. Watchful in our Worship

*2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 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.*

#### A. Steadfast in Prayer (vs2a)

-“steadfast”: with a strength that prevails in spite of difficulties

##### 1. Always being Watchful (vs 2b)

-“being watchful” (vigilant: literally to stay awake)

##### a. With thanksgiving

-4th pillar of a life that THRIVES in Christ is a life overflowing with gratitude  
(Col 2:6-7)

1-rooted in Christ

2- built up in Christ

3- strengthened in The Faith

4- overflowing with THANKSGIVING

GRATITUDE ELEVATES PRAYER  
BEYOND THE CONFINEMENT OF OUR OWN WANTS  
AND INSTEAD  
RE-FOCUSES US ON THE GREATNESS OF GOD THROUGH WORSHIP

##### 2. Always for the Gospel (vs 3-4)

##### a. That God may open to us a door for the word

-To declare the mystery of Christ

-to make clear the secret

-The message Paul declares is the same message we  
receive (Col 1:19-22, Jn 1:12)

-On account of which I am in prison

-That I may make it clear

-Which is how I ought to speak

DEAR GOD,  
OPEN THE DOORS FOR ME TO MAKE JESUS  
KNOWN WHERE HE IS UNKNOWN  
AND CLEAR WHERE HE IS MISUNDERSTOOD,  
AMEN

## **II. Wise in Our Walks (vs 5)**

*5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.*

### **A. Walk in Wisdom Toward Outsiders**

-“walk” (peripateo): from -“peri”: around

-“pateo”: walk

-meaning to go completely around in a circuit, to live it our full circle

### **B. Making the Best Use of the Time**

-literally: “to buy up every opportunity”; “to seize the buying opportunity”

-the gospel is mission critical: and worth every penny

## **III. Winsome with Our Words (vs 6)**

*6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.*

### **A. Always Gracious**

-not “polite”... REALLY means: let your words always be grace filled

### **B. Seasoned with Salt**

-Salt: preserves, sustains, and flavors

### **C. So that you may know how to answer**

In Christ we can walk in “fullness of gracious charm and salted with wit”

## **IV. THRIVING On Mission (1 Jn 1:1-4)**

### **A. Our Joy Made Complete**

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE, HEAR, AND RESPOND  
TO THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

*1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. (1 Jn 1:1-4)*

OUR MISSION  
IN WORSHIP, WALK, AND WORD IS ALL ABOUT  
CHRIST: OUR MESSAGE