PRAYING FOR THE GOSPEL TO GO FORTH COLOSSIANS 4:2-4 10-13-24

Colossians 4:2-4 – "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."

I. THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH

- A. The church has a responsibility to pray
- B. The church should be praying for the ministry of others

II. THE ROLE OF GOD

A. God is in control of everything, including our opportunities to serve Him.

Ephesians 2:10 – "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

III. THE ROLE OF PAUL

- A. Pray that we know what to say
- B. Pray that we know how to say it

COMMUNTY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **1.** What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
- 2. Would you describe your prayer life as "watchful"? How can we be better at being watchful in our prayers?
- **3.** Last week we saw Paul praying for the Colossian church, and in this passage, we see him asking for prayer. How can we learn from their prayer relationship?
- **4.** In this passage Paul acknowledges the sovereignty of God. How can the sovereignty of God be a comfort to us in our evangelistic efforts?
- 5. The circumstances in which Paul wrote this letter were not fun (he was in prison), but he was still looking for ways to spread the Gospel. Have you ever seen God use hard situations to open doors for the Gospel?
- **6.** Paul recognized that God would need to open doors for Gospel opportunities. Are there any areas of your life where you are praying to see God open Gospel opportunities?
- **7.** Do you feel like you can clearly communicate the Gospel? How can we better prepare for opportunities to share our faith?