

*The Language of the Heart*  
*Colossians 4:2-6*

*"Heaven's gate is not to be stormed by one weapon but by many. Spare no arrows, Christian. Watch and see that none of the arms in thy armoury are rusty. Besiege the throne of God with a hundred hands, and look at the promise with a hundred eyes. You have a great work on hand for you have to move the arm that moves the world; watch, then, for every means of moving that arm. See to it that you ply every promise; that you use every argument; that you wrestle with all might." (Spurgeon)*

- I. As believers, every aspect of our lives is to communicate the hope and joy of the gospel to those inside and outside of the church. The Holy Spirit's desire is to empower us to live lives worthy of the gospel, and its enablement comes from an absolute dependence on his empowerment to do so through an ongoing devotion to prayer.

Col. 4:2

- A. Heartfelt devotion to prayer is an essential part of depending on the Lord to enable us to put on the virtues of righteousness, so that peace rules over our lives. Prayer ignites revival in the heart, sustains an ongoing passion for the things of Christ, awakens the heart to the indwelling presence of the Spirit and keeps the heart vital and alive in our relationship with Jesus and with one another. Without prayer, we are in danger of our hearts growing cold toward what the Spirit desires to do in and through us.

Ezek. 37:1-6

***Eph. 6:18*** *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*

- B. Heartfelt gratitude in prayer leads to a determination to please our Lord out of love and appreciation for the tremendous blessings of salvation. It keeps the heart sensitive (watchful) to Satan's deceptive ways as the Spirit keeps us in a state readiness for the rapture.

Col. 4:2

**1 Peter 4:7** *The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober minded so that you may pray.*

- C. Heartfelt devotion to prayer for the lost keeps believers sensitive to the doors the Holy Spirit opens for us to present the gospel, as we depend on him to give us the words we need to convey the hope of salvation in a clear and concise manner.

Col. 4:3-4

**1 Peter 3:15** *But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.*

- II. As Jesus' disciples, every aspect of our lives is to express the hope we possess in our hearts to those in desperate need of the grace, love and mercy of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Through prayer and the Word, the Holy Spirit will give us the wisdom and ability we need to conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel.

Col. 4:5-6

Col. 1:10

Col. 2:6

**Phil. 1:27** *Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel.*