

Sermon Discussion Questions & Follow-up Notes

February 16, 2026 // Pastor Andrew Keuer (andrew@firstprotestant.com)

Sermon Text: Colossians 4:2-6

Series: "Colossians: A Primary in Wise Spirituality"

Sermon Title: "Where Wisdom Takes You"

Link to sermon: <https://youtu.be/DY0kPdvOAVo?t=1377>

Key Points & Observations of the Text

It is suggested to read the passage (Colossians 4:2-6) aloud as a group.

Opening discussion: What is your preferred wake-up device?

The big idea: The Christian life is growth in the kind of wisdom that wakes you up in three ways: to God's blessings through prayer, to the Gospel's expansion through collaboration, and to redemptive action during difficult seasons of life.

I. Waking-up in prayer (4:2)

- Prayer is described on the analogy of a watchman on a town wall's rampart (watchtower). Specifically, the NIV's translation "devote yourselves" literally means: 'lean towards' + 'strength'. Paul is not saying we should all be 'prayer warriors' – rather, he is saying we should put ourselves in the place where the power of prayer can break through and reach us.
- Another way to say it: Pray until you pray. Work yourselves into prayer.
- Paul's words reference back to the six times in Mark 13-14 where "watchfulness" is mentioned. It is as if Paul is saying: 'every moment is a Garden of Gethsemane moment, where something momentous could happen'. Thus, be watchful. Because God is always about to do something momentous.
- **Discussion A:** Do you know someone like Epaphras (4:12), who lingers in prayer for the spiritual maturity of others?
- **Discussion B:** How do the "Grace" (1918) and "Gratitude" (1958) paintings, what one art historian said were the most famous paintings of prayer made in American history?

II. Waking-up through collaboration (4:3-4)

- Paul presents himself as a missionary. He seeks the prayers of this church to which he writes. In essence, he says "pray that a door opens for me to preach the gospel".
- It seems the Colossian church did pray for Paul, and at least one door was opened: the letter he wrote (what we call the Epistle to the Colossians) was preserved and spread to the entire Christian world!
- **Discussion C:** How can you pray for a missionary this coming week?

III. Waking-up to redemptive action (4:5-6)

- These verses speak of 'opportunity' and 'salt' – two metaphors that signal unfortunate or rotten seasons will arise. But wisdom, Paul claims, will show us some redemptive way we can act.
- Great heroes of our faith were led by God's wisdom to act redemptively at the end of their lives: Abraham at the age of 75 stepped out to journey with God, King David didn't throw in the towel but stepped forward to ensure Solomon was appointed as his successor, and Jesus Himself turned the rottenness of the Jerusalem leadership into redemption of the whole world.
- **Discussion D:** What changes when we believe God's wisdom can give us an action or word that can redeem a bad season of life?