

As with most of the books written by Paul, the book of Colossians concludes with some final instructions to those living in Colossae, along with a few closing remarks and instructions of whom to greet.

# Colossians 4:2-18

## Final Instructions

### I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

Our words and our prayers share an interesting relationship between each other. How we speak can certainly come from those things we're praying for, and the words we use in our prayers, particularly as we refer to God and others, can shed a lot of light on how we interact and talk to others. The dynamic between the two components can reveal much regarding our relationship with God and others.

**MY EXPERIENCE...**

**YOUR EXPERIENCE...**

### II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

**SHARE** an experience when your words (the use of your tongue) got you into trouble.

**WHY** is it important to consider the right words and speech when we interact with different groups of people?

**HOW** would you describe your language when you pray? **DO** you tend to address God differently than others? **WHAT** do you find yourself praying for, specifically?

**IS** it important to consider our speech when we interact with unbelievers specifically?

## Colossians 4:2-18

# Final

## Instructions

## Read Colossians 4:2-18

### OBSERVATION

What does Paul begin this section calling those in Colossae to do in vs. 2?

List the specific things Paul requests prayer for in vs. 3-4.

In vs. 5-6, what does Paul remind his audience to be certain to do in regards to outsiders?

In vs. 7-15 Paul addresses a number of people in his life.

What do you observe about how he describes each of them?

How does Paul end his letter in vs. 18?

### INTERPRETATION

What does it mean to “continue steadfastly” in prayer? Consider other ways Scripture addresses this idea in 1 Thess. 5:17 and Acts 2:42.

What does Paul mean when he calls his readers to, “Be watchful in prayer with thanksgiving”?

In vs. 4-6 Paul seems concerned with how he speaks and interacts toward outsiders. Who are the “outsiders”, and in what specific ways does he express concern with how his audience interacts with them? Consider 1 Peter 3:15-16 in your response.

From the way Paul describes his relationships listed here, what can you conclude about the kind of friends he had? What kind of things did they have in common?

According to the description of Aristarchus in vs. 10 and Epaphras’ role and efforts in vs 12-13, what can you conclude to be true about the Christian walk?

What are you able to discover about the relationship between the churches in Colossae and Laodicea (vs. 16)?

Explain the significance of Paul’s final words in vs. 18.

### APPLICATION

How can we walk in wisdom toward unbelievers? How can we pray the way Paul calls us to in this passage?