

# Praying and Practicing Christians

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## *Colossians 4:2-18*

<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> 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— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

<sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

### **Final Greetings**

<sup>7</sup> Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. <sup>8</sup> I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, <sup>9</sup> and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.

<sup>10</sup> Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him), <sup>11</sup> and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. <sup>13</sup> For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup> Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas. <sup>15</sup> Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. <sup>16</sup> And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. <sup>17</sup> And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.”

<sup>18</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

1. How did Paul urge the Colossian Christian to pray?

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2. What was to be the content of their prayer?

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3. How does he urge them to live?

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4. How does Paul describe Tychicus?

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5. Why did Paul send him with the letter to the Colossians?

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6. Where was Paul when he was writing this letter?

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7. How does Paul describe Aristarchus, Mark and Jesus called Justus?

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8. How is Paul's description of Epaphras different from the others?

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9. Both here in this passage and in 2 Timothy 4:10-11, what do we learn about Luke and Demas?

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10. How does Paul connect the church at Laodicea with the church at Colossae?

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11. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:27 and 2 Peter 3:15-16 What does this suggest to us about these letters?

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12. What do we know about Archippus from this passage?

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13. How does Paul authenticate this letter for the church at Colossae?

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