

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:2-6 (NIV)*

## **Every Opportunity**

**Are your eyes wide open to what I want you to see? Are your ears attentive to all that I want to say to you?** I'm sure that I don't see all you want to show me. I'm positive I don't hear all that you are saying to me. Help me to see and listen. It is my desire to be in step and in tune with you. I don't want to miss a beat. **Are you sure that you really want my help?** Yes Lord, I do want your help.

**To see and hear me clearly you must devote yourself to prayer. I don't mean that you must lock yourself up in a room and do nothing but pray. Your prayer life will start and be nourished in that secret room and place of prayer. You must never give up setting aside time to meet with me in solitude, apart from the noise of your busy life. Will you continue to allow me to teach and train and prepare you in our times together?** Yes Lord, I will.

**I want you to carry our times of prayer into your life, throughout the day. Have an attitude of prayer. Be listening and watching with prayerful ears and eyes. Keep one ear and eye on earth and the other ear and eye on me. I will guide and direct your prayers. Everything you see and hear will become a subject matter of prayer.**

**In prayer filled moments throughout your day I will give you opportunities to minister to others. I will use you as my vessel. My spirit will empower you to do all that I ask you to do. Don't shrink back from opportunities that I will give to you. Be bold and full of grace as you speak to others about the new life they can have in me. Your speech will be like salt that seasons life and will taste good to others. They will see my life in you and ask you how they can come to know me and become one of my children. They will desire the new life of forgiveness and salvation that I will freely give to them.**

**Will you devote yourself to prayer and be watchful; listening to all that I want you to see and hear? Will you carry your prayer into your day? Will you act when I give you opportunities to minister to others?** Yes Lord, I will act. I will speak with the words you give. I will make the most of every opportunity you give to me. **That will be very good.**

*Lord, I will devote myself to prayer. I will be watchful and thankful. I will be looking for every opportunity to minister to others. Help my conversation to be always filled with grace so I will know how to answer everyone. Help me to clearly proclaim the gospel. Amen*

**Wisdom***Full Of Grace*

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

NIV

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 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— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

ESV

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

NLT

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be With Grace*

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

NKJV

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should. Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.

NRSV

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude. Don't forget to pray for us, that God will open doors for telling the mystery of Christ, even while I'm locked up in this jail. Pray that every time I open my mouth I'll be able to make Christ plain as day to them. Use your heads as you live and work among outsiders. Don't miss a trick. Make the most of every opportunity. Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out.

MSG

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Be earnest and unwearied and steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both] alert and intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving. And at the same time pray for us also, that God may open a door to us for the Word (the Gospel), to proclaim the mystery concerning Christ (the Messiah) on account of which I am in prison; That I may proclaim it fully and make it clear [speak boldly and unfold that mystery], as is my duty. Behave yourselves wisely [living prudently and with discretion] in your relations with those of the outside world (the non-Christians), making the very most of the time and seizing (buying up) the opportunity. Let your speech at all times be gracious (pleasant and winsome), seasoned [as it were] with salt, [so that you may never be at a loss] to know how you ought to answer anyone [who puts a question to you].

AMP

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Gracious*

Don't be weary in prayer; keep at it; watch for God's answers, and remember to be thankful when they come. Don't forget to pray for us too, that God will give us many chances to preach the Good News of Christ for which I am here in jail. Pray that I will be bold enough to tell it freely and fully and make it plain, as, of course, I should. Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News. Be wise in all your contacts with them. Let your conversation be gracious as well as sensible, for then you will have the right answer for everyone.

TLB

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be With Grace*

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

NASB

Colossians 4:2-6

**Wisdom***Be Kind And Pleasant*

Continue praying, keeping alert, and always thanking God. Also pray for us that God will give us an opportunity to tell people his message. Pray that we can preach the secret that God has made known about Christ. This is why I am in prison. Pray that I can speak in a way that will make it clear, as I should. Be wise in the way you act with people who are not believers, making the most of every opportunity. When you talk, you should always be kind and pleasant so you will be able to answer everyone in the way you should.

NCV

Colossians 4:2-6

# Full Of Grace

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Wisdom** – Colossians 4:2-6

**In Context:** *Read Colossians 4*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God’s Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:2-6

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Devote yourselves | to prayer, | being watchful | and | thankful. | And pray | for us, | too, | that God | may open | a door | for our message, | so that | we may proclaim | the mystery | of Christ, | for which | I am | in chains. | Pray that | I may | proclaim it | clearly, | as I should. | Be wise | in the way | you act | toward outsiders; | make the most | of every opportunity. | Let your conversation | be always | full of grace, | seasoned with salt, | so that | you may | know how | to answer everyone. Colossians 4:2-6

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will devote myself to prayer. I will be watchful and thankful. I will be looking for every opportunity to minister to others. Help my conversation to be always filled with grace so I will know how to answer everyone. Help me to clearly proclaim the gospel. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How you devoting yourself to prayer so you can be watchful and thankful?

**How are you praying for doors of ministry to be open for others?**

When has God given you an open door to minister to another person?

When have you been able to clearly proclaim the gospel to others?

How are you being wise in the way you act toward those who do not yet know Christ?

**How are you making the most of every opportunity to minister to those who do not yet know Christ?**

**When has your grace filled conversation opened up an opportunity to minister to another person?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the seed of God’s word to take root in your life and grow so that you will bear abundant fruit for Him.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help your conversations to be full of grace so you will know how to answer everyone.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are allowing all your conversations to be full of grace.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May your conversations be full of grace so you will know how to answer everyone.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, help my conversations to be full of grace so I will know how to answer everyone.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can my conversations be full of grace as I answer others today?*

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