

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 4:5-6 (NIV)

Doors Of Opportunity

Do you want to live the life that I have called you to live? Do you want to make the wisest use of your time? Do you want to live a life that is attractive to others? Do you want to have opportunities to be used by me? Do you want to be able to bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name? Yes, I want to be used by you. I want to live the life that you have called me to live. I don't want to waste one second of my life. I want to live a life that is attractive to others. I want to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. **That's very good.**

What will help or hinder these desires being fulfilled in my life? **That is a very good question. Nothing will waste your time more than acting foolishly and speaking gracelessly. No one is attracted to foolish actions and graceless words. Nothing will hinder your ability to bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name than acting foolishly and speaking gracelessly.** I want to live wisely and speak graciously. **Living wisely and speaking graciously will stand out in the world. People are drawn to wise actions and gracious words. Wise actions and gracious words will open doors of opportunity to you. People will want to know why you are wise and gracious. They will want to know the source of your wisdom and graciousness.** On my own I cannot act wisely and speak graciously. Wisdom and grace are not in me. **Why do you say that?** So often, I have acted foolishly and spoken gracelessly. To act wisely and speak graciously, I will need your help. **Yes, you will. Humbly coming to me to admit that you need my wisdom and grace is the beginning of wisdom. Relying on yourself is a continuation of foolishness. Relying on yourself for wisdom and grace is a big waste of your time.** I'm sure of that. **That's very good.**

I will guide you to act wisely as you rely on me. I will give you words of wisdom to speak as you rely on me. As you act wisely and speak graciously you will make the most of your time. Your life will not go to waste. People will be drawn to me through your life as you act wisely and speak graciously. I will use your life to bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name as you act wisely and speak graciously. That is what I want. **That is what I will give to you as you rely on me.**

Lord, I have often acted and spoken foolishly with words that were graceless. I know that, no one is attracted to foolish actions and graceless words. Help me to act wisely and speak graciously so I can bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

Be *Always Full Of Grace*
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 4:5-6

Be *Gracious And Attractive*
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 4:5-6

Be *Always Gracious*
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 4:5-6

Be *At All Times Gracious*
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 4:5-6

Be *Always With Grace*
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 4:5-6

Be *Always Gracious*
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 4:5-6

Be *Always With Grace*
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 4:5-6

Be *Gracious*
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 4:5-6

Be *Gracious And Sensible*
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 4:5-6

Be *Always Kind And Pleasant*
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 4:5-6

Always Full Of Grace

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Be – Colossians 4:5-6

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?)***

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 4:5-6

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

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I have often acted and spoken foolishly with words that were graceless. I know that, no one is attracted to foolish actions and graceless words. Help me to act wisely and speak graciously so I can bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

What It Means:

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

How have your grace filled words added a pleasant flavor to the lives of others?

When have your gracious words brought out the best in others?

How have you learned, over time, to act wisely and speak graciously to others?

When have your wise and gracious words opened a door of ministry to others?

How are you making sure that you are acting wisely and speaking graciously to others?

Why is acting foolishly and speaking gracelessly a very poor use of your time?

What fruit have your wise actions and gracious words born for the Lord?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Make the best use of your time by acting wisely and speaking graciously to others.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will help you to act wisely and speak graciously to others.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you are acting wisely and speaking graciously to others.

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?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

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

May act and speak wisely towards others with your words being always full of grace.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, help me to act and speak wisely toward others with words always filled with grace.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I act and speak wisely towards others with words filled with grace?
