

***“Prayer That Impacts”***  
*Colossians 4:2-4*

Here we get a common command given by Paul, as also seen in places like Rom. 12:12, Eph. 6:18, Phil. 4:6, I Thess. 5:17, 18.  
Note we move to a more outward emphasis (to reach outsiders)

**What should our prayer life look like? (4:2)**

*Persistent*--Mk. 3:9, e.g. Acts 1:14, 2:42, Lk. 2:37, I Tim. 5:5

*Alert*—Eagerly watching for answer??? Instead see Lk. 21:36, Mk. 13:33-37 / 14: 32-42, I Pt. 5:7,8, Eph. 6:18. You just can't be spiritually alert w/your eyes wide open.

*Thankful*--Thess. 5:17,18, Phil. 4:6. This is a constant theme in Colossians: 1:12, 2:7, 3:15, 17.

**What specific prayer request should be on our list? (4:3,4)**

Reciprocal intercessory prayer is a typical request: Rom. 15:30, 2 Cor. 1:11, Eph. 6:19, Phil. 1:19, I Thess. 5:25, 2 Thess. 3:1,2, Heb. 13:17,18. In essence we owe it . . . and why?

Getting the gospel out is something our prayers can be a part of. *Door for our message* (I Cor. 16:9, 2 Cor. 2:12, Acts 14:27) = a good preaching opportunity. Our prayers should often have a focus on the lost (I Tim. 2:1-8) and not just our own little world.

*Mystery of Christ* = God's plan of salvation, centered in Christ and offered to ALL people (1:26, 2:2f.)

The concern for speaking well (later for us in 4:6b) is an issue in connecting with the lost (e.g. Acts 17 in Athens), and skillfully dividing the Sanhedrin (Acts 23), defending himself before Felix, Festus and Agrippa, Acts 24-27)