



## *"Completing The Picture"*

Colossians 4:2-18

#10 in a series on Colossians

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### ***You Are Complete In Christ, You Have A New Perspective, So ...***

1. Be devoted to prayer. (2-4, 18)
2. Be active, graceful in witness. (5-6)
3. Be encouraging to other believers. (7-9, 11, 13, 18)
4. Be faithful in ministry. (17)

## In My Life This Week

*(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)*

**Monday.** Read Colossians 4:2-18. The first of four elements Paul uses to complete the picture of his message is prayer (see 4:2-4, 18). Is prayer a key feature of your life? Do you block out regular times to spend with God? Do you keep Him in your mind and have brief conversations with Him throughout the day?

Verses 3-4 and 18 remind us that we should be praying for others, including some people we have never met. Remember, Paul had not been to Colossae.

Prayer is fellowship with God. It is vital to keeping our new heavenly perspective in focus and receiving God's heavenly resources.

**Tuesday.** The second completing element Paul gives us is to be active, graceful in our witness (read verses 5-6). The wisdom in verse 5 is God's wisdom. How do you receive God's wisdom? Check James 1:5-7. Wisdom is essential to making the most of every opportunity to witness for Christ. Think of some positive and negative examples from your own experience.

Go back to verse six. Is your speech "always with grace"? What does that mean? What role do you think it plays in being a witness (don't forget the "salt")? Couple Ephesians 4:29 with this.

**Wednesday.** Today focus on Paul's directions to encourage other believers. We see this in his closing comments and greetings in verses 7-17. Read this section, noting the people he mentions (we don't know much about them). Paul gives information, expresses his appreciation for them, and also the concern of those with him for the Colossian believers.

Have you been encouraging people this week? Everyone needs encouragement, just as you do. Try to find some specific points from this section to *encourage* you to be an encourager.

**Thursday.** The final emphasis Paul gives is to be faithful in your ministry (4:17). In Philemon 2 he refers to Archippus as "our fellow soldier." He was engaged in ministry, fighting the good fight, and Paul encouraged him to be faithful in it.

You, along with all of us, have service which Christ has given you to do. "Small" or "large," in the background or foreground are not matters that count. What counts is being faithful today and each day.

**Friday/Saturday.** On Sunday we plan to begin a series in the second book of the Bible, Exodus. Read Genesis 50:22-26 and Exodus 1:1-22 as you prepare yourself for our time together.

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