

**Sermon Series: *Jesus, Our All In All* Sermon Title: *Heavenly Minded Prayer, Speech, and Love* Scripture: Colossians 4:3-18** Pastor Chris Fritz Sunday, December 8, 2019

**INTRODUCTION**

**I. HEAVENLY MINDED PRAYER**

**A. When we are “heavenly minded” our prayers will be…**

1) …steadfast and faithful, even courageously persistent! (Eph. 6:18; Luke 18:1; Rom. 12:12)

2) …watchful and alert to both dangers/temptations and to blessings/opportunities. (Matt. 26:40-41)

3) …filled with thanksgiving. (Colossians 4:2)

4) …both personal and others focused. (Colossians 4:3-4)

5) …concentrated on the glory of God and the spread of the Gospel. (Colossians 4:3-4)

**II. HEAVENLY MINDED SPEECH**

**A. One who is heavenly minded…**

1) …strives to be clear about the truth concerning Jesus. (Colossians 4:4)

2) …is aware of the power words can have upon others. (Colossians 4:5-6)

Note: Our speech should always be gracious, that is guided by and wrapped in truth and love.

Note: Our speech should be both provocative (in a good way!) and beneficial to our listeners.

**III. HEAVENLY MINDED LOVE**

1) Tychicus… the trusted, faithful, beloved brother! (Colossians 4:7-8)

2) Onesimus… the beloved brother with a shady past. (Colossians 4:9; 3:11)

3) Aristarchus… the hardship-enduring, sympathetic servant. (Colossians 4:10; Acts 19; Acts 27)

4) Mark (cousin of Barnabas)… the former deserter but now useful brother! (Col. 4:10; 2 Tim. 4:11)

5) Jesus (called Justus)… he was there, he was Jewish, and he encouraged Paul. (Colossians 4:11)

6) Epaphras… the hard-working, agonizing, prayer warrior! (Colossians 4:12-13)

7) Luke… the beloved physician and Paul’s faithful friend. (Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:11)

8) Demas… the guy with a really sad future. (Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:10)

9) Nympha… the faithful believer who hosted worship in her house. (Colossians 4:15-16)

10) Archippus… the believer with a specific ministry to fulfill. (Colossians 4:17)

***“I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.” (18)***

**Take Home Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…**

1. What does it mean “continue steadfastly in prayer”? What are some things you could do to foster more prayer and fellowship with God throughout the day?
2. What does it mean to be “alert” and “watchful” in prayer? Alert to what? Watchful for what?
3. What are some practical ways you can begin to pray for others and for the spread of the Gospel?
4. How can you help make the truth about Jesus “clear” this Christmas Season?
5. What lessons can we learn from Paul as he mentions and describes the believers he is serving with? How did Paul view and think of the believers around him?