



## All Kinds of Prayer – Part 6

# Prayers of Mission

Colossians 4:2-6

## Praying for Our Perspective

Colossians 4:2

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being **watchful and thankful**.

*O God, help me to remember that I have a calling and a purpose. Open my eyes to opportunities you have given me to serve. Open my eyes to the needs I can meet. Help me to see your hand in my life. Make me receptive to your guidance. Make me truly thankful for your love, your promises, and all you have prepared for me to do.*

## Praying for Our Opportunities

Colossians 4:3

<sup>3</sup> 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**.

*O God, give me a message and opportunities to proclaim it. Give me the courage and endurance I will need to take hold of these opportunities.*

## Praying for Our Ways

Colossians 4:5

<sup>5</sup> Be **wise in the way you act** toward outsiders; **make the most** of every opportunity.

*O God, help me to be a good steward of all you have given me. Grant me the wisdom to live out my faith. Help me to act in ways that help others see you at work in me. Help me to treat others with respect and kindness and integrity.*

## Praying for Our Words

Colossians 4:6

<sup>6</sup> Let **your conversation** be always full of **grace**, seasoned with **salt**, so that you may **know how to answer everyone**.

*O God, help me to grow in my ability to talk about you and my faith. Teach me to communicate in gracious ways. Give me the generosity to listen to others that I might understand them. Give me a winsome spirit and savory words that nurture questions and pique curiosity in others. When there are questions? Give me humble and helpful words. When I don't know the answer, give me the humility to say, "I don't know." And when I do have an answer, give me the humility to speak as one who has been taught.*

## Saint Patrick's Breastplate

Old Irish Affirmation - Eighth-Century

I rise today with the power of God to pilot me, God's strength to sustain me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look ahead for me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to protect me, God's way before me, God's shield to defend me, God's host to deliver me, from snares of devils, from evil temptations, from nature's failings, from all who wish to harm me, far or near, alone and in a crowd.

## Lord, Make Me an Instrument

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis (13<sup>th</sup> Century)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.