

Colossians 4

Keeping Alert

- Alert – Greek – *gregoreuo* = to keep awake, be vigilant, be watchful
- Same word used in Mark 14:37b–38
- “Could you not keep watch (keep awake) for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you might not fall into temptation; the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.”

Practical ways to stay awake

- Walk around
- Kneel or stand
- Talk out loud
- Use a prayer list
- Get to bed earlier–get more sleep
- Write your prayers down

A – C – T – S

Adoration = praising God’s attributes and character, His mighty works–worship

Confession = asking forgiveness of sins, asking for clean hands and a clean heart as you come before Him in prayer

Thanksgiving = thanking God for all He has done for us spiritually and materially, for answering prayer, etc.

Supplication = interceding for others and ourselves.

Phil. 1:12-14

“Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard (or governor’s house) and to everyone else, and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have courage to speak the word of God without fear.”

James 5:17-18

“Elijah was a man with a nature just like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for 3 years and six months. And he prayed again, and the sky poured rain, and the earth produced its fruit.”

“respond to each person” (v. 6)

For example, the Apostle Paul was eager to become “all things to all men” that he might save some (1 Cor. 9:22) Therefore, he would carefully choose one approach for the Jews (Acts 13:16-41) but another for the Gentiles (Acts 17:22-31).

Philemon and Onesimus



Epaphras



Ways to Encourage from Ch.4

- Paul encouraged the Colossians by writing to them.
- He told them others were praying for them
 - § Epaphras (1:7 & 4:12)
 - § Paul prayed for them (1:9-12).
He gave specifics.

Ways to Encourage (cont.)

- He encouraged his friends by writing about them.
 1. He expressed affection for them.
 2. He recognized their efforts.
 3. He was encouraged by their support.