

STUDY NOTES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN A SERIES *at* NEW CITY CHURCH

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message “Walking and Talking the Gospel” on 7/22/18 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

WATCHFUL IN PRAYER

This whole section really relates to how we represent Jesus to those who don't know him. Being watchful in prayer, at all times, with thanksgiving may be God's biggest desire for us. **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17.** Paul regularly tells Christians to be in constant, thankful prayer. He even says that it is God's will for our lives. The state of our heart, when praying, should be thankful.

See if you can be bitter and judgmental if you pray constantly with thanksgiving.

- *What are some tips that you've discovered to help keep your mind in an attitude of prayer?*
- *How can you pray with thanksgiving at all times—including difficult and painful times in life?*

WALK IN WELL-TIMED WISDOM

To represent Jesus, one does not have to be a preacher or theologically educated. We show Jesus to people by the lives that we live. Our lives should look different from everyone else's life.

- *What are some ways that you think Christian lives should look different from people who don't know Jesus?*
- *What above area do you struggle most in living different from people who don't know Jesus?*

TALK WITH TASTEFUL TRUTH

Sometimes when we think of talking about Jesus, we think of people yelling on the street corner. Because we've seen how unhelpful that is, we tend to avoid talking about Jesus entirely. However, if we have experienced God's grace in our lives, we should feel a burden to tell others about their need to experience his grace. Everything that we do or say should be done with grace.

- *What usually keeps you from talking about Jesus?*
- *In what ways could you need to be more gracious while talking about Jesus?*

Paul also tells us to season everything that we say with salt. What does that mean? Salt was used as a preservative at this time. The Gospel is the Christian's salt, because the Good News of Jesus is a preservative. While we need to be gracious, we also need to speak the truth about how we need to turn to Jesus.

- *How does Jesus's grace actually motivate us to tell other people about him?*
- *Pray with each other for opportunities to represent Jesus and opportunities to talk about Jesus.*