Luke 18:1

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray,

and not to faint;



John 4:34-38

[34] Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. [35] Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. [36] And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: **that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together**. [37] And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. [38] I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

John 4:34-38 We are God's Labourers on the earth for His harvest

I. God has equipped His servants, the Redeemed of The LORD, with two powerful weapons and all we need to engage in His mission to declare His gospel to the lost.

A. The word of <u>God</u> and <u>Prayer!</u>



The word is a powerful weapon discerning thoughts and intents of the heart for you!

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

When prayer is **fervent** and **effectual**, it avails MUCH!

James 5:16b ...the fervent effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much.



So how do we pray biblically for the lost?

II. Where in the Bible does it tell us to pray for the lost?



Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest...

A. Jesus told us to pray that He will send forth **labourers** into his harvest.



Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest...

Matthew 9:37-38 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, **that he will send forth labourers into his harvest**.



Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest...

The harvest is **PLENTEOUS!**

We need to believe what our Lord Jesus actually said. Too often, we wrongly believe the problem is the harvest.

But the truth is that the problem is that there are FEW REAL laborers!!!!



The Framework of Prayer for Intentional Gospel Outreach

2. Ephesians 6:18-20

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which i am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Vs. 18 - And for me, that utterance may be given unto me,

To be given **<u>Utterance</u>** (words)

Rom. 10:17, John 1:1-9 John 1:12 John 17:8, 20

The word "Utterance" is used only 5 times in the Bible, are in the NT!

Acts 2:4

1 Cor. 1:5

<u> 2 Cor. 8:7</u>

Eph. 6:18

Col. 4:3

Pray for Utterance (God's words)



Vs. 19 -To **open** my **mouth boldly** for the gospel

So many times what we don't do is simply OPEN our mouths. We need to open our mouths and be bold for the gospel.



Vs. 19 -To **open** my **mouth boldly** for the gospel

So many times what we don't do is simply OPEN our mouths. We need to open our mouths and be bold for the gospel.

Pray for Utterance (God's words)

Pray that you may open your mouth boldly



Vs. 19- To make **known** the **Mystery** of the gospel

Pray for Utterance (God's words)

Pray that you may open your mouth boldly

Pray to make known the mystery of the gospel



Vs. 20 To speak **boldly** as I **ought** to speak

Pray for Utterance (God's words)

Pray that you may open your mouth boldly

Pray to make known the mystery of the gospel

Pray that you speak boldly as you ought to speak



Colossians 4:2-6 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak, Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.



Vs. 4- To open a **Door** of utterance to speak **Christ**

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ



Vs. 3- To know that I am also in **bonds** to the **mystery** of Christ

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ

To make known the Mystery of the gospel

The Mystery of the Gospel IS the mystery of Christ.



To preach Christ **IS** to preach the gospel and to preach the gospel **IS** to preach CHRIST.

Vs. 3- To know that I am also in **bonds** to the **mystery** of Christ

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ

To make known the Mystery of the gospel

We are bound to the mission of declaring the mystery of Christ!



Vs. 4- To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ

To make known the Mystery of the gospel

To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak



Vs. 5- To walk in **wisdom** toward them that are **without**

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ

To make known the Mystery of the gospel

To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak

To walk in wisdom toward them that are without



James 1:5

Vs. 5- To be redeeming the time

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ
To make known the Mystery of the gospel
To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak
To walk in wisdom toward them that are without
To be redeeming the time



Vs. 6-To let your speech be with grace

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ
To make known the Mystery of the gospel
To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak
To walk in wisdom toward them that are without
To be redeeming the time
To let your speech be with grace



Vs. 6-To let your speech be seasoned with salt

To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ
To make known the Mystery of the gospel
To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak
To walk in wisdom toward them that are without
To be redeeming the time
To let your speech be with grace
To let your speech be seasoned with salt



Matthew 5:13

Colossians 4:16

Notice: The pronouns in these two parallel passages. Look back over these two passages again with me.

Eph. 6:18-20

Col. 4:2-6



- 1. To pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.
- 2. To be given Utterance (words)
- 3. To open my mouth boldly for the gospel
- 4. To open a Door of utterance to speak Christ
- 5. To make known the Mystery of the gospel
- 6. To speak the Mystery of Christ
- 7. To know that I am an Ambassador in bonds to the mystery of the gospel
- 8. To know that I am also in bonds to the mystery of Christ
- 9. To speak boldly as I ought to speak
- 10. To make it (mystery of Christ) manifest as I ought to speak
- 11. To walk in wisdom toward them that are without
- 12. To be redeeming the time
- 13. To let your speech be with grace
- 14. To let your speech be seasoned with salt



God has you covered:

- 1. Problem of <u>fear</u> countered with our ability to pray for <u>boldness</u>.
- 2. Problem of what to <u>say</u> countered with our ability to pray for <u>utterance</u>.
- 3. Problem of a way to bring in Christ countered with our ability to pray for a **door of utterance**.
- 4. Problem of how to stay on **mission** countered with knowing how you **ought to speak**.



Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, <u>Here am I; send me</u>.



The Bible <u>does NOT</u> tell us to <u>pray directly for the lost that their hearts</u> would change.

But why?



The Bible <u>does NOT</u> tell us to <u>pray directly for the lost that their hearts</u> would change.

But why?



The Bible does NOT tell us to pray directly for the lost that their hearts would change.

God provides a Door and circumstances, but He will not force their <u>heart</u> to change

God will not force anyone to **believe** and **follow** Him.

God is not a dictator.



There are essentially 7 elements shared through two local churches of Ephesus and Colossae. If you can simply remember these three passages, pray through them as God uses you to intentionally share His gospel, to share Christ.

Matthew 9:37-38

Eph. 6:18-20

Col. 4:2-6.

