



Colossians 4:2-4

2 Continue
steadfastly in prayer,
being watchful in it
with thanksgiving.

3 At the same time,
pray also for us, that
God may open to us
a door for the word,
to declare the
mystery of Christ, on
account of which
I am in prison—

4 that I may make it
clear, which is how I
ought to speak. (ESV)

1. Recommit _____ (v.2a)

2. Guard _____ (v.2b)

3. Keep _____ (v.2c)

4. Pray _____ (vv.3-4)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Psalm 86:1-7**. What motivation and encouragement for prayer do you gain from this passage?
2. What are some of the obstacles that keep you from praying as often or as focused as you should?
3. Based on the insights gained from this sermon, how would you explain the concept of "praying in Jesus' name"?
4. Read **James 4:3**. What can you do to guard your prayer life from becoming overrun with selfish and greedy requests which have little or nothing to do with God's glory or the advancement of his kingdom?
5. Read **1 Thessalonians 5:17**. What specific steps will you take this week to increase your conversational, ongoing expressions of prayer to God throughout the day?
6. Read **Mark 1:35**. What specific steps will you take this week to increase your focused, concentrated and uninterrupted prayer appointments with God?

The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:

Go to ESV.org (Reading Plans: Through the Bible) for schedule prompts.

May 8th

1Kgs.16-18 & Jn.1:29-51

May 9th

1Kgs.19-20 & Jn.2

May 10th

1Kgs.21-22 & Jn.3:1-21

May 11th

2Kgs.1-3 & Jn.3:22-36

May 12th

2Kgs.4-5 & Jn.4:1-30

May 13th

2Kgs.6-8 & Jn.4:31-54

May 14th

2Kgs.9-11 & Jn.5:1-24

May 15th

2Kgs.12-14 & Jn.5:25-47

For sermons on MP3 go to FPR.info. The following are other available sermons related to today's subject matter.

CD # 1018 – **Praying Through the Pain**

CD # 0654 – **Connecting with the Author of Scripture**

CD # 0558 – **Three Poignant Questions About Your Prayer Life**

CD # 0135–0137 – **Prayer 101** (a three-part series on prayer)

CD # 0036–0037 – **Prayer Warriors** (a two-part series on prayer)

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Bennet, Arthur. **The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions**. Banner of Truth, 1975.

Bounds, E. M. **The Complete Works of E. M. Bounds on Prayer**. Baker Books, 1990.

Carson, D. A. **A Call to Spiritual Reformation: Priorities from Paul and His Prayers**. Baker Books, 1992.

Hiebert, Edmond. **Working with God Through Intercessory Prayer**. BJU Press, 1991.

MacArthur, John. **Jesus' Pattern of Prayer**. Moody Press, 1981.

Muller, George. **Answers to Prayer: From George Muller's Narratives**. Moody Press, 1984.

Murray, Andrew. **The Best of Andrew Murray on Prayer**. Barbour Publishing, 1997.

Piper, John. **A Hunger for God: Desiring God Through Fasting and Prayer**. Crossway Books, 1997.

Ryken, Philip. **When You Pray: Making the Lord's Prayer Your Own**. Crossway Books, 2000.

Ryle, J. C. **A Call to Prayer**. Audubon Press, 2002.

Strauss, Lehman. **Sense and Nonsense About Prayer**. Moody Press, 1974.

Taylor, Hudson. **Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret**. Moody Press, 1987.

Thrasher, Bill. **A Journey to Victorious Praying: Finding Your Discipline & Delight in Your Prayer Life**. Moody, 2003.

Torrey, R. A. **Torrey on Prayer: The Power of Prayer & the Power of Power**. Reprint. RHYW, 2010.

Torrey, R. A., Charles Spurgeon, et al. **A Closer Walk with God: Prayer as a Way of Life**. Emerald House, 1997.