

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by **prayer** and petition, with **thanksgiving**, present your requests to God.*
Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. ¹⁹ Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.
I Thessalonians 5:17-19 (NLT)

Some saints have very short memories. It has been well said that we write our benefits in dust and our injuries in marble, and it is equally true that we generally inscribe our afflictions upon brass, while the records of the deliverances of God are written in water. It ought not so to be. If our memories were more tenacious of the merciful visitations of our God, our faith would often be strengthened in times of trial. (Charles Spurgeon)

Practice the presence of Christ.

- ____ **Start each day celebrating God's Presence.**
- ____ **Take in God's Word.**
- ____ **Let prayer be an ongoing conversation.**
- ____ **Make the deliberate choice to be thankful.**
- ____ **Build breaks into the day to contemplate God.**
- ____ **Remember to tell God good night.**

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"Persisting In Prayer" #5
Colossians 4:2

Pastor David Redmond
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Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind
and a thankful heart. Colossians 4:2 (NLT)



Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray,
giving thanks to God. Colossians 4:2 (GNT)

**As a follower of Jesus, I persist in
prayer because through it...**

1. God's _____ are _____.

"And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ "You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ¹² Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! ¹³ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him."
Luke 11:9-13 (NLT)

"And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."
Luke 24:49 (NLT)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:8 (NLT)

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

II Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)

“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayer-less studies, prayer-less work and prayer-less religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but he trembles when we pray.” (Samuel Chadwick)

2. God’s _____ is _____.

Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. ⁴ Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should.

Colossians 4:3-4 (NLT)

...The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.¹⁷ Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. James 5:16b-18 (NIV)

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21 (NAS)

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, ***“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’”*** ³⁹ But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 7:37-39 (NAS)

Prayer is commission. Out of the quietness with God, power is generated that turns the spiritual machinery of the world. When you pray, you begin to feel the sense of being sent, that the divine compulsion is upon you. (E. Stanley Jones)

3. God’s _____ is _____.

Devote yourselves to **prayer with an alert mind** and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)

Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!

Matthew 26:41 (NLT)

But you are not in [given up to the power of] darkness, brethren, for that day to overtake you by surprise like a thief. ⁵ For you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we do not belong either to the night or to darkness.⁶ Accordingly then, let us not sleep, as the rest do, but let us keep wide awake (alert, watchful, cautious, and on our guard) and let us be sober (calm, collected, and circumspect).

I Thessalonians 5:4-6 (AMP)

“Thus says the LORD who made the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it, the LORD is His name, ³ ‘Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.’”

Jeremiah 33:2-3 (NAS)

“This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am ready to hear Israel’s prayers and to increase their numbers like a flock. ³⁸ They will be as numerous as the sacred flocks that fill Jerusalem’s streets at the time of her festivals. The ruined cities will be crowded with people once more, and everyone will know that I am the LORD.”

Ezekiel 36:37-38 (NLT)

4. God’s _____ is _____.

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and **a thankful heart**.

Colossians 4:2 (NLT)

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Colossians 3:17 (NLT)

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. I Timothy 2:1 (NLT)