

A Word to the Wise

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Colossians.

B. Paul is writing to a church he has never been to strengthen their faith, like us.

II. Paul answers the despondent situation by declaring Jesus Christ as Lord.

III. The two expectations of a Christian: prayer and witness.

A. Prayer.

1. Keep at it.

a. This is more than just setting a schedule for prayer.

b. We are to keep ready at all times for it. (Mark 3:9)

2. Keep wide-awake. Giving thanks in prayer will keep you awake.

3. Include others in it.

a. The opportunity to minister for Paul was given to God by the people who prayed for him.

b. There are three kinds of prayer: asking, seeking and knocking.

B. Witness.

1. We are to declare the mystery of Christ.

2. Few people have heard the power of the gospel today.

3. Your behavior:

a. Walk in wisdom.

b. Be aware of the season—redeem the time knowing that the days are evil.

4. Your speech:

a. Speech ought to be gracious.

b. Speech ought to be salty—tailored to the appeal of each individual.

Application questions:

1. How can prayer be said to be a communal thing even in individual prayer?

2. Why is it important to be aware of the season concerning behavior? Explain.

3. What does salty speech look like in your life and in your work place? Be specific.
