

## **Closing Words & Greetings** **Colossians 4:2-18**

### **I. Words of Counsel – 4:2-6**

1. Make prayer a priority – 2  
“Continue steadfastly in prayer”  
God alone can change lives & situations  
Prayer is a vital resource  
“Being watchful in it” - Be alert, focused  
Pray as guided by Holy Spirit – Rom. 8:26-27  
“With thanksgiving” – Phil. 4:6-7  
Expect God to respond & thank Him  
Claim God’s promise in faith
2. Pray for those who serve Christ – 3-4  
Pray for us – for Paul & his ministry team  
Pray for an open door to preach Christ  
Without fear even though it means prison  
That I might make the message clear – 4
3. Walk in wisdom toward unbelievers – 5  
That they may see Christ-like lifestyle  
“Making the best use of the time”  
Look for God-given opportunities & use them
4. Let your speech always be gracious – 6  
“Seasoned with salt” – pure & yet penetrating  
That you may know how you ought to answer  
Trusting God’s Spirit to give you the words

### **II. Introducing Messengers – 4:7-9**

1. Tychicus – Paul’s fellow servant in Christ  
He is a beloved brother & faithful minister  
He is probably the bearer of this letter  
He will fill you in about my activities  
He will give you a full report & encourage you
2. Onesimus – Who is one of you – 9  
We will see more of this in Book of Philemon  
Here Paul wants the church to know about him  
He is “our faithful and beloved brother”  
He will join Tychicus in this report

### **III. Teammates Send Greetings – 10-14**

1. Aristarchus – my fellow prisoner – 10
2. Mark – cousin of Barnabas – 10  
Had left Paul & Barnabas on 1<sup>st</sup> journey  
Now he may be coming to Colosse  
If he comes – welcome him
3. Jesus – who is called Justus – 11  
Along with Mark only Jewish believers on team  
They have been a comfort to Paul
4. Epaphras – who is one of you – 12-13  
A servant of Christ Jesus – he sends greetings  
He earnestly prays for you  
That you may stand mature & fully assured in  
God’s will  
He works hard for Colosse, Laodicea & Hierapolis

5. Luke the beloved physician – 14  
Think of his ministry to Paul
6. Demas also sends greetings – 14  
He will later forsake Paul – 2 Tim 4:10

### **IV. Closing Greetings – 4:15-18**

1. To Church at Laodicea – 15-16  
Greet the brothers for me  
Greet Nympha & the church in her house  
Share letters with Laodicea – 16
2. Encourage Archippus in his ministry – 17  
That he fulfill the ministry God has given him
3. Paul’ signature greeting – 18  
He writes a greeting with his own hand  
Note 2 Thessalonians 3:17-18  
He asks to remember his chains (as they pray)  
He extends a blessing of grace as in every letter