

INTRODUCTION:

MAIN IDEA: Live so people can find Jesus. How? Here are three things to do.

I. First, pray (2-4)

A. steadily (2)

Continue: with perseverance, steadily (keep praying right along)

1. being watchful: spiritually alert for what God's doing, the enemy (distractions), opportunities
2. based on our love & thankfulness for Jesus

TRUTH: Praying daily in a quiet time, not just arrow prayers.

B. for opportunities (open doors) to witness (3-4)

1. God-ordained, provided
2. awareness of: a compulsion, an inner voice, an obvious spiritual conversation

C. for clarity in speaking of Christ (4)

Clearly: to make known, visible, apparent, to reveal

1. not fancy
2. from the heart
3. what we've witnessed, experienced
4. using the scripture we know

ILLUSTRATION:

II. Second, be wise in our conduct (5)

Walk: our conduct in daily life (Wiersbe)

Wisdom: sound judgment, good sense

A. how we act affects how people respond to us

1. people react to how we act
2. people "size us up" by our behavior (affects their

willingness to converse)

EX: When a person slams things around or is rude to another, do we stand beside them in line or choose another line?

B. we want to make the most of every opportunity

1. be Jesus: to exemplify love, kindness
2. not be a hindrance to Jesus: repulsive Christian or repulsive person

ILLUSTRATION:

III. Finally, speak thoughtfully (6)

A. with grace (undeserved mercy)... kindness, gentleness, respect

B. with salt (attractively, NLT)

Colossians 4:6, NLT: Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

1. right for the occasion
2. pure
3. causing thirst for Jesus

C. with intentionality

1. to each person appropriately

2. to direct each toward Jesus (sow, water, reap)

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION:

"The most important question is not how much work is being done but how much Jesus is doing through you. --Corrie Ten Boom

ALTAR: commit to prayer? Better conduct? More careful in speaking?
