



SDG Discussion Guide

Colossians 4:2-4

February 21, 2021

To begin:

What is your experience of the season of Lent, if any? Or what is your experience when it comes to prayer -- this could be anything?

Before you proceed:

Pray and ask God to enlighten you to show you where he has been at work and present in your past week through events, places, and people. Ask Him to enliven and guide your group in your reading and discussion.

1. What was the main takeaway for you from the sermon this week?
2. Read aloud **Colossians 4:2-4** slowly. Reread it aloud in a different Bible translation. What stands out to you in the text? What other impressions, curiosities, and questions arise as you further ponder it?
3. Ponder and discuss the following definition of prayer: Prayer is a personal, communicative response to God.
4. Read aloud Romans 8:26-27: "... the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." Now, revisit the prior question (#3) with any additional insights gained.
5. Ponder and discuss the assertion of EM Bounds: "God shapes the world through prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil...the prayers of God's saints are the capital stock of heaven by which God carries out His great work upon the earth. God conditions the very life and prosperity of His cause on prayer."
6. Read aloud James 5:16: "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." In brief, how would you describe your belief about whether prayer is really necessary?
7. What might God want to do in and through your group's prayer life during Lent? Spend some time in prayer as it flows from the Spirit's leading.