

# PRISON LETTERS

COLOSSIANS



# PRISON LETTERS

Fill in the blank:

"I am most like Jesus when \_\_\_\_\_."



# PRISON LETTERS

“I am most Jesus like when I pray more for others than for myself.”



<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

<sup>16</sup> After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea.

COLOSSIANS 4:16

# 1) PRAYER IS A DISCIPLINE



<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful  
and thankful.

COLOSSIANS 4:2

“We Protestants are an undisciplined people. Therein lies the reason for much of the dearth of spiritual insights and serious lack of moral power.”

**- Albert Edward Day -**

“Lord, teach us to pray.”

LUKE 11:1

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

# A) WATCHFULNESS



<sup>40</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter.

<sup>41</sup> “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”... <sup>43</sup> When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.

MATTHEW 26:40-41; 43

# B) THANKFULNESS



We are to pray in the present with the  
future of Christ's second coming in mind  
and with the past of Christ's crucifixion  
and resurrection in mind

# 2) PRAYER IS INTERCESSION



<sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup>  
Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

COLOSSIANS 4:3-4

Every church does not only need  
pastors, elders, deacons, but they also  
need intercessors!

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother.

COLOSSIANS 1:1

<sup>10</sup> My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.)

<sup>11</sup> Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings.

COLOSSIANS 4:10-12

These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings.

COLOSSIANS 4:10-12

Get into the habit of sharing your prayer requests with other believers

Get into the habit of seeking out the prayer requests of other believers

<sup>26</sup> In the same way, 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.<sup>27</sup> 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.

ROMANS 8:26-27

Intercession is not a one-time prayer, while that in itself is meaningful and powerful. Intercession is continuous prayer until we see what we have been praying for.

# 3) PRAYER IS EVANGELISTIC



<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

COLOSSIANS 4:5-6

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will **through all the wisdom and understanding** that the Spirit gives, <sup>10</sup> so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way.

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

There is a selectiveness that comes upon Christians. We become either too judgemental or too lazy.

Every interaction with an unbeliever is a  
spiritual opportunity

We must choose to see time as “karios”  
(the opportune time) instead of “chronos”  
(general time)

<sup>50</sup> “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

MARK 9:50

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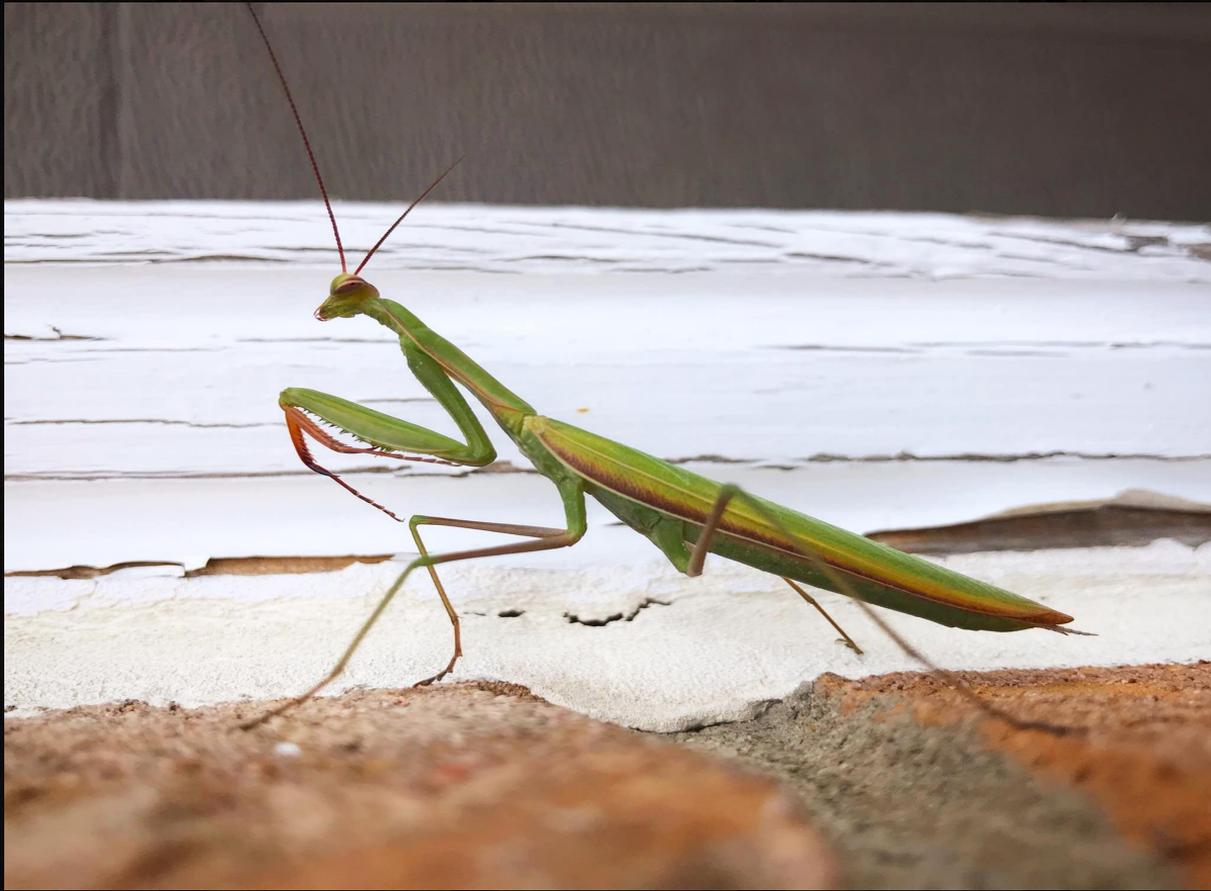
“We are most like Jesus when we seek  
God’s wisdom for our lives.”



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The Praying Mantis

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ZOOM Corporate Prayer

Meeting ID: 852 0081 1799

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