

WIN THE BATTLES

COLOSSIANS 4:2

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: In Christ you have His fullness. You are holy and dearly loved. In prayers of faith, your struggles become His struggles; but more importantly, time with Christ occurs.

BE DEVOTED TO PRAYER WITH AN OPEN HEART. As you go to your Heavenly Father in devoted prayer and worship, your heart becomes one with His heart. You become like who or what you worship and to whom you pray. His joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and love become yours in prayer and worship. His strength becomes your strength. (Colossians 4:2, Hebrews 4:16, fn 4:16, Ephesians 3:12, fn 3:12, Romans 8:26, 27, fn 8:26, 27, Jude 20, fn 20, Ephesians 1:14-20, fn 1:16, 17) *Why is it important to your family that you be devoted to prayer?*

BE WATCHFUL. Jesus has said that in your life you will have trouble. When you are devoted to prayer, God helps you not only to be alert to threats to your faith; but His power (grace) sustains you in your troubles. However, God's grace is not realized through heartless and mindless repetitive prayers. (Colossians 4:2, fn 4:2, John 16:33, fn 16:31-33, Matthew 26:39-41, fn 26:40, 41, Luke 18:1, fn 18:1, Matthew 6:13, fn 6:13, James 5:16, fn 5:16-18, I Peter 3:12) *How does devoting yourself to prayer help you to withstand future troubles?*

BE THANKFUL WITH A HUMBLE HEART. Giving thanks, you verbalize and magnify the blessings of Jesus in your life. Jesus' presence gives love, hope, and grace, enabling His children to be thankful in all situations. Thankful prayer from a humble heart recognizes that you are needy and there is someone (God) bigger than you. (Colossians 4:2, Philippians 4:6,7, I Thessalonians 5:17, 18, fn 5:18, I Timothy 2:1,2, Romans 1:18-21, fn 1:21-23) *Why do you need to always be thankful?*

*How is your relationship with your spouse or others? (I Peter 3:7, Matthew 5:23, 24)
What sin, if any, do you need to confess? (James 5:16)*

