



Sermon series: I Pray For...

Text: Colossians 4:2-4; Ephesians 6:18-20; 2 Corinthians 4:4-6

Delivered: March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## Praying for Advancement

**Big Idea: The Gospel advances through the prayers of God's people.**

### **How can I be praying for the advancement of the gospel?**

1. Pray for God to open up \_\_\_\_\_ to proclaim the Gospel. (Col. 4:2-4)
2. Pray for God to give \_\_\_\_\_ in proclaiming the gospel. (Eph. 6:18-20)
3. Pray that God would \_\_\_\_\_ people's \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the gospel. (2 Cor. 4:4-6)

### **What causes us to give up praying for the advancement of the gospel?**

*"The easiest thing about praying is quitting." -Sam Storms*

1. "This makes no \_\_\_\_\_ that I can \_\_\_\_\_."
2. "The need and challenges are so \_\_\_\_\_ and my prayers feel so \_\_\_\_\_."
3. "God hasn't answered \_\_\_\_\_, so He probably \_\_\_\_\_ will."

### **What can motivate us to keep praying for the advancement of the gospel?**

1. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is God's \_\_\_\_\_ to someone else's prayers.
2. God \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel will \_\_\_\_\_ to the ends of the earth.

### **Possible Action Steps:**

- Keep praying for loved ones who aren't saved. Don't give up!
- Start praying for the one more person you believe God is calling you to love.
- Commit to praying for an unreached people group.
- Prioritize praying for Muslims during the month of Ramadan.

*As you think back over your own story, how did the prayers or influence of other people play a role in you coming to faith?*

*How have you seen God provide opportunities to proclaim the gospel in your own life?*

*What are the situations you are in throughout your life where God might open a door to proclaim the gospel?*



What are some “cracks in the door” you can look for as you seek to proclaim the gospel?

How might you go about proclaiming the gospel to someone else when the opportunity presents itself? Have you practiced doing this before?

What are some of the reasons that hold you back from proclaiming the gospel? What might change if you recognized that behind these reasons there is a war going on?

Where have you experienced frustration or discouragement as you pray for advancement of the gospel (Or in any other area of praying)? What are the reasons you are tempted to give up praying in this area?

What helps to motivate you to keep praying when you are tempted to give up? Where have you seen answers to prayers in your own life only after a long period of praying?

Out of the four action steps suggested, which one or two will you prioritize in your life?

Who are 1 or 2 people in your life that you are praying God would save? (If you are with a CARE Group take some time to pray together for all these people).

Further Resources:

- [18 Prayers to Pray for Unbelievers](#)
- [How to Transition into Gospel Conversations](#)
- [What is the Place of Faith in My Unanswered Prayers?](#)