

Donna's Devotional

Pray for Open Doors

“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:”
Colossians 4:2-3

Paul was bound in restraints. Yet instead of focusing on his discomfort and deplorable situation, he asks the believers in Colossae to pray.

He tells them to continue in prayer. This indicates that it is something they did regularly. They were not strangers to prayer. He does not ask them to plead for his deliverance.

He asked them first of all to be thankful. What a strange request from one who is incarcerated for obeying God.

Secondly, he asks them to pray that God will open the door. That God will give Paul opportunities to share Christ.

Paul was in chains. He is asking for prayer that God will give an opportunity to witness to the people who have him incarcerated.

That is not a human reaction. A human reaction might be anger or desire for evil to fall on these people, but Paul responds by asking God to give his adversary a blessing. He wants them to have the opportunity to hear the gospel.

Paul's motive and response are worth noting as well as his request. He knew that if his witness was to be effective it must be given at a time when God opens the door and works in the hearts of the hearers.

We would do well to follow Paul's selfless motive and prayer for opportunities to share Christ with the lost that we come in contact with.