



Be Missional!

Following in the Footsteps of Epaphras • Part 2

Lesson 9 • Colossians 4:12-13

Colossians 4:7-18 reminds us that our ministry to others is the overflow of our relationship with Christ. 12 people are mentioned by name. Each one sought to **make their mark for eternity**. We are **following in the footsteps of those who fulfilled their ministries**, so we too can make our mark for eternity!

► **Do You Know What Epaphras Is Most Remembered For?** _____ !

► **What Would Those Closest to You Say about Your Prayer Life?**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-existent | <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lukewarm | <input type="checkbox"/> Passionate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grocery list for self | <input type="checkbox"/> Others focused |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organ recital | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritually focused |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stagnant rut | <input type="checkbox"/> Works hard at praying for others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fox hole mentality | <input type="checkbox"/> Unashamed to advance God's kingdom on their knees |

Follow in the Footsteps of Epaphras ~ Colossians 4:12-13

Be Unashamed to _____

How Did Epaphras Make His Mark When He Was Raised in Such a Pagan Culture?

He did for others what was done for him in Christ... and advanced God's kingdom on his knees!

Make Your Mark: Be Unashamed to Advance God's Kingdom on Your Knees!

How to Advance God's Kingdom on Your Knees

1. Pray _____ ♦ *"Epaphras...a slave of Christ Jesus..."*

As a slave of Christ, he saw life from his Master's perspective and was concerned with seeing his master's interests advanced more than his own. In fact, His Master's interests were his own interests!

"And how bold and free we then become in his presence, freely asking according to his will, sure that he's listening. And if we're confident that he's listening, we know that what we've asked for is as good as ours." 1John 5:14-15 (The Message)

My prayers come from a heart fully surrendered to the Lord and doing His will.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Using the Lord's Prayer as your prayer guide will help you do this! Praying Scripture back to God will help as well.

2. Pray _____ ♦ *"Epaphras, who is one of you...greeted you...always struggling on your behalf in his prayers..."*

It is good to talk to people about their problems, but it is better to talk to God about people and their problems!

Relational Prayer Is Marked by...

- Praying on behalf of people you know, love, and serve on _____ behalf.
- Praying God's _____ for people for their good and God's glory.
- Praying for _____ as much or more than you pray for yourself.

My prayers are as focused on God's people as much as they are on my own family and myself.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: The better you know people the better you can pray for them with passion and purpose!

3. Pray _____ ✦ *"always struggling...he has worked hard for you"*

Praying Intensely Means...

- Seeing prayer as spiritual _____.
 - 1) Against **our flesh** –
 - 2) Against **the world** –
 - 3) Against **the devil** –
- Seeing prayer as hard _____.

My prayers are marked by Christ-like passion and persistence.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Because prayer is spiritual warfare and hard work, do not expect it to come easy or to grow in it without a fight!

4. Pray _____ ✦ *"that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God"*

My prayers are specific and focused.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Use the "Missionary of the Week" prayer requests that are provided to pray specifically for our missionaries.

5. Pray _____ ✦ *"that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God"*

- _____: Resist false teaching and false living. (Col. 1:21-23)
- _____: Become fully devoted Christ followers. (Col. 1:28, 9-14)
- _____: Stay satisfied with the sufficiency of Christ and His Gospel. (Col. 2:8-10)
- _____: Do what God has revealed in His Word to be His will. (Col. 3:16; 4:2-6)

My prayers are more concerned with spiritual growth than personal comfort, physical healing, or material gain.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Pray Scripture back to God, especially the prayers of David in the Psalms and those of Paul in the epistles.

6. Pray _____ ♦ *"he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis."*

Missional Praying Is Unashamed to...

- Cross borders geographically, culturally, and socially in their prayers
- Break through barriers to reach the unreached through their prayers
- Build bridges for getting the gospel to all peoples by their prayers

My prayers cross borders and breakthrough barriers to reach the unreached with the Good News of Christ.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Expand your heart and your prayer life beyond your own comfort zone and your own kind of people.

7. Pray _____ ♦ *"For I bear him witness..."*

Praying Corporately Helps You...

- Learn to pray and teach others to pray.
- Hear the heart of others and share your heart with others.
- Link your life and ministry with others who are unashamed to advance God's kingdom on their knees.

My prayers join with those of others to advance God's kingdom around the world until Christ returns.

Rarely Sometimes Often Frequently

Prayer Tip: Expand your heart and your prayer life beyond your own comfort zone and your own kind of people.

Make Your Mark: Follow in the Footsteps of Epaphras and Become a Prayer Warrior!

Be Unashamed to Advance God's Mission on Your Knees!

