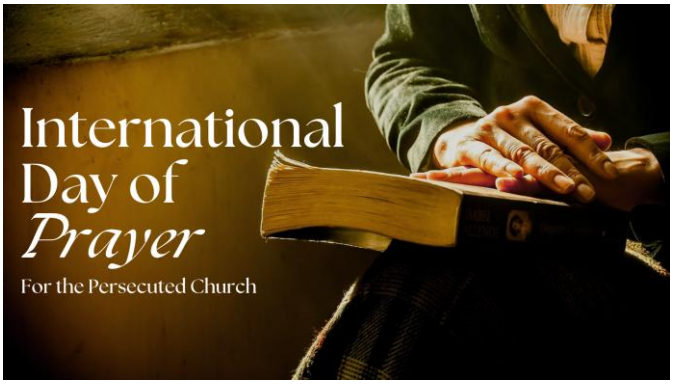

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

INTRODUCTION

Paul urges believers to pray persistently for open doors to proclaim the gospel clearly, even as he himself suffers imprisonment for Christ. From this we learn that prayer is necessary for intentional and courageous witnesses for Jesus.

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore, please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- What was the most interesting idea/concept about Sunday's sermon?
- What is your overall impression of Jesus in this passage?

REVIEW

- Have someone read **Col 4:2-6**
- What surprises you about this passage?
- What do you learn about prayer from this passage?
- What does Paul's request reveal about his priorities?
- What does it mean for our speech to be gracious and seasoned with salt?

APPLICATION

- How should we be praying for Christians who face persecution around the world.
- How easily do we allow personal difficulties to turn our attention inward rather than toward opportunities to serve Christ?
- How might our prayers change if we became more concerned with gospel opportunities than with our own comfort?
- What do persistence, watchfulness, and thanksgiving add to our prayers for the gospel?
- Why might we be tempted to neglect praying for evangelistic opportunities?
- How can our group become more intentional about praying for missionaries, persecuted Christians, and opportunities to share Christ in our own community?

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- **This is a week of prayer for the Persecuted Church: Please devote much time to prayer**.
- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?