

ONWARD 2025 – KNOW THEIR STORY  
**SOUND CHECK: CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?**

Col 4:2-6

1.26.24

To make a big impact for Christ, silence is not an option;  
but turning the volume up doesn't matter when you're on mute

*Two essential communication outputs to keep active:*

THE VERTICAL OUTPUT

**# 1 FIERCE PRAYER — TALK BOLDLY WITH GOD ABOUT PEOPLE (4:2-4)**

Big impacts for Christ depend upon fierce prayer

*Four qualities of fierce prayer:*

#1 **ONGOING DEVOTION**: PRAY CONTINUALLY — '*...Continue steadfastly...*' (4:2a)

Fierce prayer isn't seasonal – it keeps going

#2 **INTENSE VIGILANCE**: PRAY TENACIOUSLY — '*...being watchful in it...*' (4:2b)

Fierce prayer isn't easy – it takes effort and pays attention

#3 **MINDFUL APPRECIATION**: PRAY GRATEFULLY — '*...with thanksgiving...*' (4:2c)

Fierce prayer isn't all asks – it makes time to say 'thank you'

#4 **DRIVEN MISSION**: PRAY STRATEGICALLY — '*...pray also for us, that...*' (4:3, 4)

Fierce prayer isn't just about our personal whims – it cares for others and what matters most to God

*Three strategic requests to make boldly:*

#1 Pray for Gospel **Opportunity** — '*...God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ...*' (4:3a)

#2 Pray for Gospel **Bravery** — '*...on account of which I am prison...*' (4:3b)

#3 Pray for Gospel **Clarity** — '*...that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak...*' (4:4)

## THE HORIZONTAL OUTPUT

### # 2 A WISE WITNESS — TALK WISELY WITH PEOPLE ABOUT GOD (4:5-6)

Big impacts for Christ happen through wise witnesses

*Six qualities of a wise witness:*

#1 AN ALL IN LIFESTYLE: WITNESS *CREDIBLY* — '*...walk in wisdom...*' (4:5a)

Wise witnesses consider their entire way of life

#2 AN OUTGOING MINDSET: WITNESS *PROACTIVELY* — '*...toward outsiders...*' (4:5b)

Wise witnesses have unbelievers in mind and in their lives

#3 FULL ON EFFICIENCY: WITNESS *OPPORTUNELY* — '*...making the best use of the time...*' (4:5c)

Wise witnesses use their time well

#4 AN IN-TUNE WARMTH: WITNESS *TASTEFULLY* — '*...Let your speech be always gracious...*' (4:6a)

Wise witnesses weigh the impact of their speech

#5 AN UP-FRONT DISTINCTION: WITNESS *CLEARLY* — '*...seasoned with salt...*' (4:6b)

Wise witnesses stand out enough to be noticed

#6 ON POINT FINESSE: WITNESS *CAPABLY* — '*...so that you may know how you ought to answer each person...*' (4:6c)

Wise witnesses work hard to understand and engage with the person in front of them