

PRAYING FOR **GOD'S MESSENGERS** **Ephesians 6:18-20**

God's Word encourages us to pray for God's messengers

I. PRAY FOR OTHER'S EFFECTIVENESS

- Because missionaries need back-up!

A. THEIR PROPER WORDS (19a)

1. Knowing what to say > "that utterance be given to me"
2. Actually saying it > "in the opening of my mouth"

B. THEIR REVEALING WITNESS (19b-20a)

- See also Colossians 4:2-4

1. Making known the mystery of the gospel (19b)
 - a. That Christ became a man to save us from our sin - John 3:16-17
 - b. That Christ saves all who repent of sin and call on Him in faith - Rom. 10:9
 - c. That salvation is not by works - Titus 3:5
2. Fulfilling ambassador duties (20a)
 - a. Representing Christ - II Cor. 5:20
 - b. Undaunted by chains

C. THEIR FEARLESS WAYS (20b)

1. Speaking the truth with boldness
2. An uncompromising commitment to truthful communication

II. PRAY FOR OUR EVANGELISM

- Because believers need to buck-up!

A. REMEMBER

- God's messengers are not just missionaries

B. RECALL

1. Our Mandate: Proclaiming repentance for forgiveness of sin - Luke 24:26-28
2. Our Mindset: Speaking the Word with boldness - Acts 4:31
3. Our Message: We preach Christ - I Corinthians 1:18-24
4. Our Mission: The ministry of reconciliation to God through Christ - II Cor. 5:18-19
5. Our Model: A fervent faith affecting many - I Thessalonians 1:8

Over please >

C. REHEARSE

1. How to share the gospel
 - a. Use the Word - Heb. 4:12
 - b. Practice your testimony
 - c. Anticipate scenarios
2. When to share the gospel ... anytime!
 - a. Trunk or Treat: Think of the treats that await the saints!
 - b. Veteran's Day: Have you enlisted in God's army?
 - c. Thanksgiving: I'm thankful that Jesus saved me
 - d. Hanukkah (December 12th): The Messiah is the true Light of the World
 - e. Christmas: "There has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." - Luke 2:11
 - f. New Years: Forgetting what's behind and looking forward to what's ahead - Phil. 3:13
3. Why to share the gospel
 - a. Because everyone has an appointment with death and judgement - Hebrews 9:27
 - b. Because a rich beggar burning in Hades is burdened for his brothers - Luke 16:27-31

CONCLUSION:

We need to pray for the growth of the gospel ...

- Through missionaries committed to proclamation
- Through members concerned about the lost
- Through me communicating God's Word