



## Episode 4: Gospel Awareness Part 2: Practical Relationship Steps Towards Evangelism

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"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. 5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person." — Colossians 4:2-6

### Summary

Paul urges us to be like him: making the best use of the time we have, watching and praying for opportunities to speak to others about Christ. To do this requires intentionality. We must begin spending time around unsaved people with the intention of bringing them the gospel. Walking in wisdom often means building relationships as a first step: spending time together, learning about them, and listening to their values and needs. In this way, we build trust and make our genuine care for them known. This step opens the door to begin speaking gracious and salty words about the mystery of Christ. It takes time and effort to get to know people and let them get to know us. You may be surprised to see that once you behave in this way towards others, they respond with openness, sharing their needs and joys, and asking you about the hope that you have.

### Podcast Listening Notes

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## Reflection Questions

Once we have begun praying for opportunities to share the gospel with others, we must be watchful for when those moments arise. What would this look like for you in your life? What are some things you can do to be more watchful?

Have you ever felt the Lord nudging you to speak to someone about Christ? How did you respond? Why? If the Lord leads you to speak, trust that he is about to use you for something good. Commit to respond in faith the next time. Consider spending time this week reading the book of Jonah.

Do the people that you are trying to reach with the gospel know that you are a Christian? What are some ways you could make that fact known?

Have you spoken or acted in ways that would damage your witness as a Christian around the unbelievers you hope to reach? Has this made you want to be an anonymous Christian or feel like being silent? God is gracious and uses weak and broken vessels like us to bear his good message (2 Cor 4:7). Take some time to repent of these sins and ask for a renewed sense of joy and love from God for mission.



### Action Point

Brainstorm a list of practical ways to build trusting relationships with FFNCC's (friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, and classmates): Here are a few starters: Help a neighbor with a project, ask a neighbor for help, talk to your co-workers and learn more about their personal lives, bait the hook by freely mentioning you are a Christian/something God is doing and see if they respond, try retail evangelism by visiting the same restaurants and stores and get to know the workers, invite non-Christians to holiday events, be vulnerable by sharing your struggles as you get closer to draw out honesty in others, share books with others that have meant a lot to you. What else can you think of?



### Prayer Prompt

God, help me to appreciate the mystery of the gospel more deeply. Grant me the ability to make the best use of the time, which may be shorter than I realize. Christ is worthy to be proclaimed to all, therefore, may I do so joyfully and with commitment. Help me to wisely, graciously, and consistently communicate the gospel in ways fitting to each person I speak with. Use me to bring others into your Kingdom, and help me to see the fruit of this prayer even this week!