



Week Four | Our Minds | 08.15-16.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: Paul wrote his letter to the Colossian church while he was in prison, yet his prayer request is not for his release or provision, but rather that God would continue to give him opportunities to share about Jesus. What we pray for says a lot about our focus.

» Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What was your style or 'group' in high school?
- Digging Deeper: How did your group in high school influence who you are today?

» Observation | Read Colossians 4:2-6 (15 minutes)

- What is your initial reaction to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | You follow where you focus. (15 minutes)

- List several different things our world might focus on today. What does it look like to follow where you focus in each instance?
- From the passage, what are some things Paul is encouraging his readers to focus on? How can this translate today?

» Risky Faithfulness | Reference Colossians 4:2-4 (15 minutes)

- What do you pray for in difficult times? What might God want you to be praying for right now?
- Paul is challenging his readers to be watchful and thankful in their prayer; how do you do that in your life?
- Paul isn't asking to get out of prison, he's asking for faithfulness while he's there. How are you praying for faithfulness in your current circumstances?

» Wise Fruitfulness | Reference Colossians 4:5-6 (15 minutes)

- Are you more of a grace person or a truth person? What is the danger in offering one without the other?
- Which non-Christian friends would be surprised that you were a Christian and why?
- How does your focus change so you're following the right pattern in your life?

» Next Steps and Prayer | (15 minutes)

- Spend some time this week praying for your neighbors. Do you know about stuff in their lives? Pray for those things. If you don't know how to pray for them, have a conversation with them this week.
- Close by praying for each other to spend some time this week evaluating where their focus is and how it might need to shift.