**Series: Colossians**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

**Today: God Uses Ordinary People**

1. **God Uses Us to Advance His Purposes**
2. **Christ Influences How We Talk to God About People.**

**Colossians 4:2-18**

*2Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.*

**Be devoted to prayer**

**Don’t let visible odds fool you**

**Be thankful**

**Pray your requests & God’s agenda**

1. **Christ Influences How We Talk to People About God.**

*5Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

1. **Calling the Roll Down Here**

“So much of me wants to be lost in my grand ideas and reflections, away from the noise and urgency of other people, but I cannot escape the fact that growth invariably involves the messiness of genuine human contact…I’ve yet to find a mature believer…who says you can grow into the full stature of Christ without bumping up against brothers and sisters on a regular basis…” ~Adam McHugh, *Introverts in the Church*

*7Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servantin the Lord. 8I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about ourcircumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. 9He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here.*

*10My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) 11Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jewsamong my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me.*

*12Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. 13I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis.*

*14Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. 15Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.*

*16After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea.*

*17Tell Archippus: “See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord.”*

*18I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.*