

Colossians - Chapter 4 “Epaphras, the Prayer Warrior” Colossians 4:12-13

Verse 12-13

1. Epaphras was the man that _____ this church at Colosse. 1:5-7
2. Epaphras, unable to deal with all the many issues in the church, made the long trip to Rome to visit Paul in prison and seek his advice.
3. But it appears that while in Rome, Epaphras was also imprisoned (Philemon 23), or he simply chose to _____ and assist Paul.
4. Paul obviously had the highest regard for this man Epaphras.
5. But do you know what Epaphras is most remembered for? His _____ ministry!
6. Paul had several observations about this man’s prayer life that I believe God had Paul record in Scripture to instruct, challenge, and exhort us in our prayer lives.

Epaphras was very _____ about prayer.

- Paul said that he was *“always laboring fervently for you in prayers.”*
- Prayer was a way of _____ for this man.
- The phrase *“laboring fervently”* means “to struggle; to compete for a prize; to contend with an adversary.”

Epaphras prayed specifically and _____.

- Paul said, “He is praying for **you**.” And, Paul said that he is praying specifically *“...**that ye** may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.”*
- He wanted so much for them to stand in the truth of God’s Word and to _____ to spiritual maturity.

Epaphras believed that God _____ prayer.

- Do we really believe that God answers prayer?
- If we believe that our prayers move the _____ of God, do you know what we will do? We will do what Epaphras did. We will labor fervently in prayers.
- God _____ through people and He works through the prayers of His people. He always has and He still does.
- Epaphras had a physical confinement (in prison), yet it couldn't _____ him in his prayer life.

7. Prayer is not an easy thing to do. Our _____ resists it greatly.

Notice that Paul said that he was *“laboring fervently in prayers.”*

8. When we pray, we encounter all kinds of opposition from Satan and from our own flesh. But _____ praying Christian – be an Epaphras in your prayer life!