

成为福音的好见证人

*Be a Witness
to the Gospel*

歌罗西书
Colossians 4:2-6

引言 Intro:

- 歌罗西书开始时讲基督的超越性，然后信徒在基督里的地位/身份，最后讲信徒的生活操练。

Colossians begins by speaking about the preeminence of Christ, then the position/identity of believers in Christ, and finally the life/practice of the believers.

- 今天，我们的经文教导我们怎样做一个福音的好见证人。

Today, our text teaches us how to be a good witness to the gospel.

- 成为福音的好见证人是对主的托付忠心，也是对人最大的爱心。

To be a good witness to the gospel is being faithful to the trust the Lord has on us, and doing the greatest act of love for others.

A. 要恒切祷告 (4:2)

Devote yourselves to prayer(4:2)

西 4:2 你们要恒切祷告，在此警醒感恩。

**Col 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer,
being watchful and thankful.**

- 保罗没有说明什么是祷告或为什么要祷告。
**Paul doesn't explain what is prayer or
why believers need to pray.**
- 他假设每个人都祈祷。
He assumes that everyone prays.

- 保罗要求信徒祷告时要有三种的姿态。
Paul urges believers to adopt three postures when praying.

1) 要恒切祷告

be devoted in prayer

2) 要警醒祷告

be watchful in prayer

3) 要感恩祷告

be thankful in prayer

- 祷告是一种**动态的互动**，而不仅仅是沉默的时刻。祷告不单只是对上帝的**要求**，也是对上帝的**回应**。

Prayer is a dynamic interaction, not just a moment of silence. It is as much a response to God as a request of God.

- 祷告时要存**顺服的信心**预备领受上帝的回应。

One prays with an obedient faith preparing to receive God's response.

- 1) 恒切：认真、迫切，常常的，不灰心。
be devoted: earnest, urgent, often, not discouraged.
- 2) 警醒：提防陷入迷惑，等候倾听。
be watchful in prayer: guard against temptation, waiting to hear Him.

可 14:38 总要警醒祷告，免得入了迷惑。你们心灵固然愿意，肉体却软弱了。」

Mark 14:38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

3) 感恩：凭信心，仰望、交托、顺服主。

be thankful in prayer: by faith, look up to the Lord, entrust and be submissive.

个人见证 Personal testimony:

- 不肯定是不是神的意思要我当宣教士。

Not sure if it was God's will for me to be a missionary.

- 持续祷告两年，读圣经寻求明白神的心意。

Prayed earnestly for 2 years, reading the Bible to seek to understand God's will.

- 两年来，没有听到任何上帝具体的声音。但是，与他的关系却越来越深。

For 2 years, heard nothing specific from God. But, bond with Him grow deeper.

- 有一天，流着眼泪再次问上帝：
“你到底要我在哪一方面侍奉你？”

**One day, in tears, I asked
God once again: "In which
ministry do you want me to
serve you?"**

- 突然，在心里有声音说：“我儿，你为什么总问我我要你做什么？看，全世界都是我的禾场！我儿，你愿意为我做什么呢？”

Suddenly, there was a voice in my heart saying, "My son, why do you keep asking me what I want you do? Look, the whole world is my harvest field! My son, what are you willing to do for me?"

- 就在那时，我明白了上帝是要我自愿的献上自己，作为 活祭 来侍奉祂。我就在上帝面前许愿为祂作跨文化的宣教士。

It was then that I knew God wanted me to offer myself up at my own will as a living sacrifice to him. I pledged myself before God to be a cross-cultural missionary for him.

- 上帝呼召我却没有强迫或奴役我。祂要求我回应祂的呼召。

God called me without forcing or enslaving me. He asked me to respond to his call

- 虽然主让我祷告寻求两年之后才明确的听到祂的声音，两年的等候过程仍然充满对主丰盛恩典的感恩，所以可以持续的仰望祷告。

Although the Lord made me pray and seek him for two years before I heard his voice clearly, the 2-year waiting process was still full of gratitude for the Lord's abundant grace, that was why I could keep on looking up to him and keep on praying.

- 我们也须要为福音的缘故彼此代祷：

We also need to pray for each other for the sake of the gospel:

西 4³ 也要为我们祷告，求神给我们开传道的门，能以讲基督的奥秘（我为此被捆锁），
4 叫我按著所该说的话将这奥秘发明出来。

Col 4³ And 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. ⁴ Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

- 保罗因为传福音而被坐监，但是他在这里不是求信徒为他可以得释放祷告，而是为着他同工们可以继续有机会传福音祷告。这就是他的“不入了迷惑”！

- Paul was imprisoned for preaching the gospel, but here he is not asking believers to pray for his release, but for him and his co-workers to continue to have the opportunity to preach the gospel. This is his "*not falling into temptation*"!

太 9³⁶ 他 [耶稣] 看见许多的人，就怜悯他们；因为他们困苦流离，如同羊没有牧人一般。³⁷ 於是 对门徒说：「要收的庄稼多，做工的人少。³⁸ 所以，*你们当求庄稼的主打发工人出去收他的庄稼。*」

Mat 9³⁶ When he [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.³⁸ *Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.*”

- 祷告不应该以自我为中心，而是以神和祂的旨意为中心。

Prayer should not be self-centered, but centered on God and His will.

- 就算是为自己祷告的时候，也应该按着上帝的旨意为自己求。

Even when praying for yourself, you should ask according God's will.

- 你越了解上帝，你就越能了解祂的旨意。
读经、祷告的生活是你了解上帝的一个主要途径。

The more you know God, the better you can understand His will. Daily Bible reading and prayer life is the main way you get to know God.

- 认识上帝是一个关系成长过程，是需要时间、须要持续坚持的功夫。

Knowing God is a process of relationship growth. It takes time and needs to be sustained.

- 上帝不要我们脱离世界，却又要我们 **与世
界分别为圣的成为福音的好见证人**，不被
世界引诱。惟有 **透过祷告** 面向世界，我们
才能得胜有余！

God does not want us to leave the world, but wants us to *be separated from the world* and *be a good witness to the gospel*, not to be lured by the world. It is *only through prayer* that we are able to be more than conquerors in facing the world!

B. 要爱惜光阴 (4:5)

**make the most of every opportunity
(4:5)**

西 4:5 你们要爱惜光阴，用智慧与外人交往。

**Col 4:5 Be wise in the way you act
toward outsiders; make the most of
every opportunity.**

- 保罗要我们注意我们的**行为**和我们的**生活方式**。

Paul wants us to pay attention to our actions and our lifestyle.

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- 有人这么说：“任何日子，我宁愿看见一篇讲章，而不是听见而已。”

Someone says, “Any day, I would rather **see** a sermon than hear it.”

弗 4:1 我为主被囚的劝你们：既然蒙召，行事为人就当与蒙召的恩相称。

Ehp 4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

- 不单是你与人的交往，你的人生观也由你的生活方式流露出来！

Not only your interactions with people, but your outlook on life is also revealed by your lifestyle!

- 你的生活显示你是一个只在今生有盼望的人，还是一个有“**天上来的异象**”的基督的信徒？(徒 26:19)

Your life shows that you are a person who has hope only in this life, or a believer in Christ who has a “vision from heaven**”?**
(Acts 26:19)

个人见证 Personal testimony:

- 去年我们中学同学有同班级同学聚会 - 四十年，第一次!

Last year, my secondary school classmates had a gathering - first in 40 years!

- 我接受邀请成为聚会筹委会委员之一。

I accepted the invitation to be one of the organising committee members.

- 当我发觉有一位住在同一市镇的男同学因为意外事故导致下肢瘫痪，我就提出代表同学会去探望他，向委员会报告他的情况。

When I learnt that there was a male student living in the same town who was paralysed from the waist down due to an accident, I proposed letting me visit him and report back to the committee.

- 这位下肢瘫痪的同学很消沉，没有兴趣与任何人联系。透过我的手机，我请其他同学发送信息问候他，帮他发送他对同学问候的回复。

This classmate was depressed and had no interest in contacting anyone. Through my mobile phone, I asked other classmates to send greeting messages to him and I help send his replies to them.

- 我带一位住在同市的同学一起探望这位下肢不便行走的同学，也通知当地的教会可以去关心他。

I took a classmate who lived in the same town to visit this classmate who couldn't walk, and also informed the local church to minister to him.

- 我建议购买一台手机给他，愿意教导他怎样使用手机与同学们保持联络。这我们做了。

I recommend buying him a mobile phone for him and I would show him how to use his mobile phone to keep in touch with other classmates. We did this.

- 我又建议在同学会聚会让大家自由的为这位不幸的同学捐款，表达对他的关心。

I also suggested that everyone at the class reunion party be free to donate money to this unfortunate classmate to show their care for him.

- 我在同学会聚会时播放不幸的同学的一段视频，分享他的情况。当晚我们收到马币6000元的捐款。

I played a video of the unfortunate classmate at the class reunion and shared about his situation. We received a donation of RM 6,000 that evening for him.

- 很多同学很惊讶我竟然会成为了基督徒，而且还是传道人，也当过宣教士！大家也感激我让他们有机会可以帮助一位有需要的同学。

Many classmates were surprised that I would become a Christian, and am a pastor, and a missionary! They were grateful that I had made it possible for them to give towards the need of our unfortunate classmate.

- 我会这么做是因为我知道耶稣爱我，他也希望我与他人分享他的爱。

I did what I did because Jesus loves me, and he wants me to share his love with others.

- 不但是人在看我们怎样行事为人和生活，上帝、天使和撒旦也在观看我们在地上的生活。

Not only are people watching how we act and live, God, angels and Satan are also watching how we live our life on earth.

我们是福音的好见证人吗？

**Are we good witnesses
to the gospel?**

C. 要和气待人 (4:6)

Be gracious to others (4:6)

西 4:6 你们的言语要常常带著和气，好像用盐调和，就可知道该怎样回答各人。

Col 4:6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

- 我们与人接触最多使用的方式是透过交谈。

The way we most use to interact with people is through conversation.

- 保罗说基督徒应该说造就人的好话，说诚实和合宜的话。

Paul says Christians should say kind words that build people up, and words that are honest and appropriate.

- “用盐调和”就是说言语有内容，不枯燥，有调节关系、带来和谐的作用。

"seasoned with salt" means that our words have content, are not boring, enhance good relationship, and bring about harmony.

- 戴德生牧师在河边雇船，突然来了个有钱人，也要坐船。船家已经和戴德生讲好价钱，就不肯把船租给有钱人。

Rev. Hudson Taylor hired a boat by the river and suddenly came a rich man who also wanted to hire a boat. The boatman had agreed on the price with Rev. Hudson so he refused to rent the boat to the rich man.

- 有钱人看了戴牧师一眼，伸手一拳就打在戴牧师鼻子上。

The rich man gave Rev. Hudson a glare and then hit him on the nose.

- 有钱人背向河，戴牧师心里有气，真想把他一推就推落水中。

The rich man stood with his back facing the river. Rev. Hudson was angry and was tempted to give the rich man a push to drop him into the water.

- 可是戴牧师想到耶稣，就对那人说：“我本想把你打下水去，但我信的耶稣却不容许。你不该打我，因为我先与船家讲好价钱，船就该租给我。”

But when Rev. Hudson thought of Jesus, he said to the man: "I wanted to push you into the water, but the Jesus I believe in does not allow it. You should not had hit me because I first agreed with the boatman on the price, and I should had the boat."

- 戴牧师继续说：“现在就请你一起坐我租的船渡河。”

Rev. Hudson continued: "Now I invite you to cross the river together with me in the boat I hire."

- 那人听了深感惭愧，上了船，一路上听戴牧师讲圣经的道理。

The man was deeply embarrassed of his earlier behavior. He got on the boat, and listened to Rev. Hudson sharing the teaching from the Bible the whole way .

雅1¹⁹ 我亲爱的弟兄们，这是你们所知道的，但你们各人要快快的听，慢慢的说，慢慢的动怒，²⁰ 因为人的怒气并不成就神的义。

James 1¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

雅 3:2 原来我们在许多事上都有过失；若有人在话语上没有过失，他就是完全人，也能勒住自己的全身。

James 3:2 We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

我们要和气待人，在言语、态度上荣耀神！

We must be gracious with our words and attitudes, to bring glory to the Lord!

结语：

成为福音的好见证人的三大要：

The three main things to be a good witness to the gospel:

1. 要恒切祷告 - 以祷告为基础；

be devoted in prayer - prayer as foundation;

2. 要爱惜光阴 - 生活有目标、有力量；

make the most of every opportunity - living with purpose and vitality;。

3. 要和气待人 - 言语和态度有涵养。

**be gracious to others - a refined manner
in speech and attitude.**

让我们在这三方面不断追求改进，
学习成为福音的好见证人！

*Let us constantly pursue
improvement
in these three aspects and seek
to be
a good witness to the gospel!*