

为着一个新人，让基督的平安
在我们心里作仲裁，让基督的话丰丰富富地
住在我们里面，并坚定持续地祷告

诗歌：

读经：西三 15 ~ 17，四 2 ~ 3

- 西 3:15 又要让基督的平安在你们心里作仲裁，你们在一个身体里蒙召，也是为了这平安；且要感恩。
- 西 3:16 当用各样的智慧，让基督的话丰丰富富地住在你们里面，用诗章、颂辞、灵歌，彼此教导，互相劝戒，心被恩感歌颂神；
- 西 3:17 凡你们所作的，无论是什么，或说话，或行事，都要在主耶稣的名里，借着祂感谢父神。
- 西 4:2 你们要坚定持续地祷告，在此做醒感恩，
- 西 4:3 同时也要为我们祷告，求神给我们开传道的门，能以讲说基督的奥秘，（我也为此被捆锁，）

壹 我们需要让基督的平安在我们心里作仲裁—西三 12 ~ 15，弗二 14 ~ 18，罗五 1，太十八 21 ~ 35：

- 西 3:12 所以你们既是神的选民，圣别蒙爱的人，就要穿上怜悯的心肠、恩慈、卑微、温柔、恒忍。
- 西 3:13 倘若这人与那人嫌隙，总要彼此容忍，彼此饶恕；主怎样饶恕了你们，你们也要怎样饶恕人。
- 西 3:14 在这一切之上，还要穿上爱，爱是全德的联系。
- 西 3:15 又要让基督的平安在你们心里作仲裁，你们在一个身体里蒙召，也是为了这平安；且要感恩。
- 弗 2:14 因祂自己是我们的和平，将两下作成一个人，拆毁了中间隔断的墙，就是仇恨，
- 弗 2:15 在祂的肉体里，废掉了那规条中诫命的律法，好把两下在祂自己里面，创造一个新人，成就了和平；
- 弗 2:16 既用十字架除灭了仇恨，便借这十字架，使两下在一个身体里与神和好了；
- 弗 2:17 又来传和平为福音，给你们这远离的人，也传和平为福音，给那相近的人，
- 弗 2:18 因为借着祂，我们两下在一位灵里，得以进到父面前。
- 罗 5:1 所以，我们既本于信得称义，就借着我们的主耶稣基督，对神有了和平。

Allowing the Peace of Christ to Arbitrate in Our Hearts,
Letting the Word of Christ Dwell in Us Richly,
and Persevering in Prayer for the One New Man

Hymns:

Scripture Reading: Col. 3:15-17; 4:2-3

- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.
- Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.
- Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
- Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,
- Col 4:3 Praying at the same time for us also, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ (because of which also I am bound),

I. We need to allow the peace of Christ to arbitrate in our hearts—Col. 3:12-15; Eph. 2:14-18; Rom. 5:1; Matt. 18:21-35:

- Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering;
- Col 3:13 Bearing one another and forgiving one another, if anyone should have a complaint against anyone; even as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive.
- Col 3:14 And over all these things put on love, which is the uniting bond of perfectness.
- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.
- Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, He who has made both one and has broken down the middle wall of partition, the enmity,
- Eph 2:15 Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,
- Eph 2:16 And might reconcile both in one Body to God through the cross, having slain the enmity by it.
- Eph 2:17 And coming, He announced peace as the gospel to you who were far off, and peace to those who were near,
- Eph 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.
- Rom 5:1 Therefore having been justified out of faith, we have peace toward God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

太 18:21 那时，彼得进前来，对耶稣说，主啊，我的弟兄得罪我，我当赦免他几次？到七次么？

太 18:22 耶稣对他说，我不是对你说到七次，乃是到七十个七次。

太 18:23 因此，诸天的国好比一个作君王的人，要和他的奴仆算账。

太 18:24 才算的时候，有人带了一个欠一万他连得银子的来。

太 18:25 因为他没有什么可偿还的，主人吩咐把他和他的妻子儿女，并一切所有的都卖了来偿还。

太 18:26 那奴仆就俯伏拜他，说，宽容我，将来我都要还清。

太 18:27 那奴仆的主人就动了慈心，把他释放，并且免了他的债。

太 18:28 但那奴仆出来，遇见一个和他同作奴仆的，欠他一百银币，便揪住他，掐住他的喉咙，说，你所欠的，都要偿还。

太 18:29 那和他同作奴仆的，俯伏央求他说，宽容我，将来我必还你。

太 18:30 他却不肯，竟去把他下在监里，等他还清所欠的债。

太 18:31 那些和他同作奴仆的，看见所发生的事，就甚忧愁，去把一切所发生的事，都完全告诉他们的主人。

太 18:32 于是主人把他叫来，对他说，你这恶仆，因你央求我，我就把你一切所欠的都免了；

太 18:33 你岂不应当怜悯和你同作奴仆的，象我怜悯你么？

太 18:34 主人就大怒，把他交给掌刑的，直到他还清了一切所欠的债。

太 18:35 你们各人若不从心里赦免你的弟兄，我天父也要这样待你们了。

一 “作仲裁”一辞的希腊文也可译为“作裁判，作主席，登位作每件事的管治者和决断者”；基督那作仲裁的平安，消除我们与任何人的嫌隙—西三 13。

西 3:13 倘若这人与那人有嫌隙，总要彼此容忍，彼此饶恕；主怎样饶恕了你们，你们也要怎样饶恕人。

二 我们常常发现我们里面有三派：一派是积极的，另一派是消极的，还有一派是中立的；因此，需要内里的仲裁来解决我们里面的争执：

1 每当我们感觉我们里面各派在争执或争吵时，我们需要让基督的平安作主席，并让这平安，就是新人的一，在我们里面管治并下最后的断语。

Matt 18:21 Then Peter came and said to Him, Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?

Matt 18:22 Jesus said to him, I do not say to you, Up to seven times, but, Up to seventy times seven.

Matt 18:23 For this reason the kingdom of the heavens has become like a king who desired to settle accounts with his slaves.

Matt 18:24 And when he began to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.

Matt 18:25 But since he did not have the means to repay, the master commanded him to be sold, as well as his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made.

Matt 18:26 Then the slave fell down and worshipped him, saying, Be patient with me and I will repay you all.

Matt 18:27 And the master of that slave was moved with compassion and released him and forgave him the loan.

Matt 18:28 But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and he took hold of him and began to choke him, saying, Repay me what you owe.

Matt 18:29 Then his fellow slave fell down and begged him, saying, Be patient with me and I will repay you.

Matt 18:30 But he would not; instead, he went away and threw him into prison until he would repay what was owed.

Matt 18:31 Then his fellow slaves, seeing what had taken place, were greatly grieved and came and explained fully to their master all that had taken place.

Matt 18:32 Then his master called him to him and said to him, Evil slave, all that debt I forgave you, because you begged me.

Matt 18:33 Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave even as I had mercy on you?

Matt 18:34 And his master became angry and delivered him to the torturers until he would repay all that was owed.

Matt 18:35 So also will My heavenly Father do to you if each of you does not forgive his brother from your hearts.

A. The Greek term for arbitrate can also be rendered “umpire, preside, or be enthroned as a ruler and decider of everything”; the arbitrating peace of Christ dissolves our complaint against anyone—Col. 3:13.

Col 3:13 Bearing one another and forgiving one another, if anyone should have a complaint against anyone; even as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive.

B. Often we are conscious of three parties within us: a positive party, a negative party, and a neutral party; hence, there is the need for inward arbitration to settle the dispute within us:

1. Whenever we sense that different parties within our being are arguing or quarreling, we need to give place to the presiding peace of Christ and allow this peace, which is the oneness of the new man, to rule within us and have the final word.

2 我们需要把我们的意见、观念摆在一边，听内住之裁判的话。

三 我们若让基督的平安在我们心里作仲裁，这平安会解决我们中间所有的争执，我们就会与神有纵的平安，并与圣徒有横的平安：

1 借着基督的平安作仲裁，我们的难处解决了，圣徒之间的摩擦也消失了；然后召会生活就能甜美的得保全，新人也实际的得以维持。

2 基督的平安作仲裁，就是基督在我们里面作工，好在我们身上施行管治，来作结论，下最后的决断—参赛九6~7。

赛 9:6 因有一婴孩为我们而生，有一子赐给我们；政权必担在祂的肩头上；祂的名称为奇妙的策士、全能的神、永远的父、和平的君。

赛 9:7 祂的政权与平安必加增无穷，祂必在大卫的宝座上，治理祂的国，以公平公义使国坚定稳固，从今时直到永远。万军之耶和華的热心，必成就这事。

3 如果我们一直让基督的平安作王管治，我们就不会得罪别人，破坏别人；我们反而会靠着主的恩典和平安，把生命供应给别人。

4 这平安应当将所有的信徒联结一起，成为他们的联索—弗四3。

弗 4:3 以和平的联索，竭力保守那灵的一：

贰 我们需要让基督的话丰丰富富地住在我们里面—西三16~17：

西 3:16 当用各样的智慧，让基督的话丰丰富富地住在你们里面，用诗章、颂辞、灵歌，彼此教导，互相劝戒，心被恩感歌颂神；

西 3:17 凡你们所作的，无论是什么，或说话，或行事，都要在主耶稣的名里，借着祂感谢父神。

一 当基督的平安在我们里面作仲裁，保守我们在满了一与和谐的光景中，我们就成了神说话的

2. We need to set aside our opinion, our concept, and listen to the word of the indwelling Referee.

C. If we allow the peace of Christ to arbitrate in our hearts, this peace will settle all the disputes among us; we shall have peace with God vertically and with the saints horizontally:

1. Through the arbitration of the peace of Christ, our problems are solved, and the friction between the saints disappears; then the church life is preserved in sweetness, and the new man is maintained in a practical way.

2. The arbitrating of the peace of Christ is Christ working within us to exercise His rule over us, to speak the last word, and to make the final decision—cf. Isa. 9:6-7.

Isa 9:6 For a child is born to us, / A Son is given to us; / And the government / Is upon His shoulder; / And His name will be called / Wonderful Counselor, / Mighty God, / Eternal Father, / Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 To the increase of His government / And to His peace there is no end, / Upon the throne of David / And over His kingdom, / To establish it / And to uphold it / In justice and righteousness / From now to eternity. / The zeal of Jehovah of hosts / Will accomplish this.

3. If we stay under the ruling of the enthroned peace of Christ, we shall not offend others or damage them; rather, by the Lord's grace and with His peace we shall minister life to others.

4. This peace should bind all the believers together and become their uniting bond—Eph. 4:3.

Eph 4:3 Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace:

II. We need to let the word of Christ dwell in us richly—Col. 3:16-17:

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

A. When the peace of Christ arbitrates in us and keeps us in a situation full of oneness and harmony, we become the place of God's speaking, His

地方，成了神的出口—15~16节，启二1、7:

- 西 3:15 又要让基督的平安在你们心里作仲裁，你们在一个身体里蒙召，也是为了这平安；且要感恩。
- 西 3:16 当用各样的智慧，让基督的话丰富地住在你们里面，用诗章、颂辞、灵歌，彼此教导，互相劝戒，心被恩感歌颂神；
- 启 2:1 你要写信给在以弗所的召会的使者，说，那右手中握着七星，在七个金灯台中间行走的，这样说，
- 启 2:7 那灵向众召会所说的话，凡有耳的，就当听。得胜的，我必将神乐园中生命树的果子赐给他吃。

1 神的说话要求一；分裂使神的说话减少，甚至使神的说话完全停止—利一1。

利 1:1 耶和華从会幕中呼叫摩西，对他说，

2 既然一是神说话的必要条件，我们就需要让基督的平安在我们心里作仲裁—西三15。

西 3:15 又要让基督的平安在你们心里作仲裁，你们在一个身体里蒙召，也是为了这平安；且要感恩。

3 基督的话丰富地住在我们里面，意思就是这话在我们里面有充分的地位，而浸润并浸透我们全人；我们要让基督的话进到我们里面，住在我们里面，在我们里面得胜，顶替我们的观念、意见、和哲学；这是极重要的一诗一一九130，参启二一23，二二5。

诗 119:130 你的言语一解开，就发出亮光，使愚蒙人通达。

启 21:23 那城内不需要日月光照，因有神的荣耀光照，又有羔羊为城的灯。

启 22:5 不再有黑夜，他们也不需要灯光日光，因为主神要光照他们；他们要作王，直到永永远远。

二 我们需要让主的话在我们里面居首位，使我们经历神话语的功用在我们里面运行，并将基督的丰富供应到我们这人里面—西三16:

西 3:16 当用各样的智慧，让基督的话丰富地住在你们里面，用诗章、颂辞、灵歌，彼此教导，互相劝戒，心被恩感歌颂神；

1 神的话光照、（诗一一九105、130、）喂养、（太四4，提前四6、）并滋润我们，解我们的干渴。（赛五五8~11。）

诗 119:105 你的话是我脚前的灯，是我路上的光。

诗 119:130 你的言语一解开，就发出亮光，使愚蒙人通达。

oracle—vv. 15-16; Rev. 2:1, 7:

- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.
- Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.
- Rev 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:
- Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

1. God's speaking requires oneness; division causes God's speaking to diminish, even to cease altogether—Lev. 1:1.

Lev 1:1 Then Jehovah called to Moses and spoke to him out of the Tent of Meeting, saying,

2. Since oneness is a necessary condition for God's speaking, we need to let the peace of Christ arbitrate in our hearts—Col. 3:15.

Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.

3. For the word of Christ to dwell in us richly means that it has adequate room in us to permeate and saturate our whole being; it is crucial for us to let the word of Christ enter into us, dwell in us, prevail in us, and replace our concepts, opinions, and philosophies—Psa. 119:130; cf. Rev. 21:23; 22:5.

Psa 119:130 The opening of Your words gives light, / Imparting understanding to the simple.

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev 22:5 And night will be no more; and they have no need of the light of a lamp and of the light of the sun, for the Lord God will shine upon them; and they will reign forever and ever.

B. We need to allow the word of the Lord to have the first place in us so that we may experience the functions of the word of God operating within us and ministering the riches of Christ into our being—Col. 3:16:

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

1. The word of God enlightens (Psa. 119:105, 130), nourishes (Matt. 4:4; 1 Tim. 4:6), and waters us to quench our thirst (Isa. 55:8-11).

Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.

Psa 119:130 The opening of Your words gives light, / Imparting understanding to the simple.

太 4:4 耶稣却回答说，经上记着，“人活着不是单靠食物，乃是靠神口里所出的一切话。”
提前 4:6 你将这些事提醒弟兄们，便是基督耶稣的好执事，在信仰的话，并你向来所紧紧跟随善美教训的话上，得了喂养。
赛 55:8 耶和華說，我的意念并非你们的意念，你们的道路并非我的道路。
赛 55:9 天怎样高过地，照样我的道路高过你们的道路，我的意念高过你们的意念。
赛 55:10 就如雨雪从天而降，并不返回，却滋润地土，使地发芽结实，使撒种的有种，使要吃的有粮；
赛 55:11 我口所出的话也必如此，绝不徒然返回，却要成就我所喜悅的，在我所打发去成就的事上必然亨通。

2 神的话加强、(约壹二 14 下，箴四 20~22、) 洗涤、(弗五 26、) 并建造我们。(徒二十 32。)

约壹 2:14 下 …青年人，我刚写信给你们，因为你们刚强，神的话住在你们里面，你们也胜了那恶者。
箴 4:20 我儿，要留心听我的言语，侧耳听我的讲论。
箴 4:21 都不可使这些离你的眼目；要持守在你心中。
箴 4:22 因为对寻得的人，这些乃是生命，又是全身的医治。
弗 5:26 好圣化召会，借着话中之水的洗涤洁净召会，
徒 20:32 如今我把你们交托神和祂恩典的话，这话能建造你们，叫你们在一切圣别的人中得着基业。

3 神的话借着圣别我们，(约十七 17，) 使我们完备并完全，(提后三 15~17，) 且造就我们。

约 17:17 求你用真理圣别他们，你的话就是真理。
提后 3:15 并且知道你是从小明白圣经；这圣经能使你借着相信基督耶稣，有得救的智慧。
提后 3:16 圣经都是神的呼出，对于教训、督责、改正、在义上的教导，都是有益的，
提后 3:17 叫属神的人得以完备，为着各样的善工，装备齐全。

三 我们借着让神的话住在我们里面，就能成为正确的人，就是神人，充满基督作神属性的实际——西三 17~25，腓四 5~8。

西 3:17 凡你们所作的，无论是什么，或说话，或行事，都要在主耶稣的名里，借着祂感谢父神。
西 3:18 作妻子的，要服从丈夫，这在主里是相宜的。
西 3:19 作丈夫的，要爱妻子，不可苦待她们。
西 3:20 作儿女的，要凡事顺从父母，因为这在主里是可喜悅的。
西 3:21 作父亲的，不要惹你们儿女的气，免得他们灰心丧志。

Matt 4:4 But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."
1 Tim 4:6 If you lay these things before the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching which you have closely followed.
Isa 55:8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, / And your ways are not My ways, declares Jehovah.
Isa 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, / So My ways are higher than your ways, / And My thoughts higher than your thoughts.
Isa 55:10 For just as the rain comes down / And the snow from heaven, / And does not return there, / Until it waters the earth / And makes it bear and sprout forth, / That it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
Isa 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; / It will not return to Me vainly, / But it will accomplish what I delight in, / And it will prosper in the matter to which I have sent it.

2. The word of God strengthens (1 John 2:14b; Prov. 4:20-22), washes (Eph. 5:26), and builds us up (Acts 20:32).

1 John 2:14b ...I have written to you, young men, because you are strong and the word of God abides in you and you have overcome the evil one.
Prov 4:20 My son, be attentive to my words; / Incline your ear to my sayings.
Prov 4:21 Do not let them depart from your sight; / Keep them in the midst of your heart.
Prov 4:22 For they are life to those who find them, / And healing to all their flesh.
Eph 5:26 That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,
Acts 20:32 And now I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who have been sanctified.

3. The word of God completes, perfects (2 Tim. 3:15-17), and edifies us by sanctifying us (John 17:17).

2 Tim 3:15 And that from a babe you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus.
2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,
2 Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.
John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

C. By allowing the word of God to inhabit us, we can become a proper human being, a God-man filled with Christ as the reality of the attributes of God—Col. 3:17-25; Phil. 4:5-8.

Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
Col 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
Col 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter against them.
Col 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing in the Lord.
Col 3:21 Fathers, do not vex your children, that they may not be disheartened.

西 3:22 作奴仆的，要凡事顺从肉身的主人，不要只在眼前事奉，象是讨人喜欢的，乃要凭心中的单纯敬畏主。
西 3:23 你们无论作什么，都要从心里作，象是给主作的，不是给人作的，
西 3:24 知道你们从主那里必得着基业为赏报；你们所事奉的乃是主基督。
西 3:25 那行不义的，必受不义的报应，并没有偏待人的事。
腓 4:5 当叫众人知道你们的谦让宜人。主是近的。
腓 4:6 应当一无挂虑，只要凡事借着祷告、祈求，带着感谢，将你们所要的告诉神；
腓 4:7 神那超越人所能理解的平安，必在基督耶稣里，保卫你们的心怀意念。
腓 4:8 末了的话，弟兄们，凡是真实的，凡是庄重的，凡是公义的，凡是纯洁的，凡是可爱的，凡是有美名的；若有什么德行，若有什么称赞，这些事你们都要思念。

叁 我们需要坚定持续地祷告—西四 2 ~ 3:

西 4:2 你们要坚定持续地祷告，在此儆醒感恩，
西 4:3 同时也要为我们祷告，求神给我们开传道的门，能以讲说基督的奥秘，（我也为此被捆锁，）

一 我们需要有充分的时间来祷告，这使我们能更多吸取基督这包罗万有之地的丰富——12，二 6 ~ 7，四 2:

西 1:12 感谢父，叫你们够资格在光中同得所分给众圣徒的分；
西 2:6 你们既然接受了基督，就是主耶稣，
西 2:7 在祂里面已经生根，并正被建造，且照着你们所受的教导，在信心上得以坚固，洋溢着感谢，就要在祂里面行事为人。
西 4:2 你们要坚定持续地祷告，在此儆醒感恩，

1 我们需要花时间吸取主，确定且透彻地接触祂—路 8:13，太十四 22 ~ 23，六 6。

路 8:13 那些在磐石上的，就是人听了道，欢喜领受，但没有根，不过是暂时信了，在试炼的时候，就退后了。
太 14:22 耶稣随即催门徒上船，在祂以先到对岸去，等祂解散群众。
太 14:23 既解散了群众，祂就独自上山去祷告。到了晚上，只有祂单独在那里。
太 6:6 你祷告的时候，要进你的密室，关上门，祷告你在隐密中的父，你父在隐密中察看，必要报答你。

Col 3:22 Slaves, obey in all things those who are your masters according to the flesh, not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but in singleness of heart fearing the Lord.
Col 3:23 Whatever you do, work from the soul as to the Lord and not to men,
Col 3:24 Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as recompense. You serve the Lord Christ.
Col 3:25 For he who does unrighteously will receive what he unrighteously did, and there is no respect of persons.
Phil 4:5 Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is near.
Phil 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.
Phil 4:8 Finally, brothers, what things are true, what things are dignified, what things are righteous, what things are pure, what things are lovely, what things are well spoken of, if there is any virtue and if any praise, take account of these things.

III. We need to persevere in prayer—Col. 4:2-3:

Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,
Col 4:3 Praying at the same time for us also, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ (because of which also I am bound),

A. We need to allow adequate time for prayer, which will enable us to absorb more of the riches of Christ as the all-inclusive land—1:12; 2:6-7; 4:2:

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
Col 2:7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

1. We need to take time to absorb the Lord, contacting Him in a definite and prevailing way—Luke 8:13; Matt. 14:22-23; 6:6.

Luke 8:13 And those on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; yet these have no root, who believe only for a while, and in time of trial they draw back.
Matt 14:22 And immediately He compelled the disciples to step into the boat and to go before Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.
Matt 14:23 And after He sent the crowds away, He went up to the mountain privately to pray. And when night fell, He was there alone.
Matt 6:6 But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

2 早晨遇见神，不仅是在一天的清早遇见祂，并且也是在满了光的情形里遇见祂；我们该独自到神前，不受任何人、事、物打岔或占有一箴四 18，出三三 11 上，三四 3 ~ 4，可一 35。

箴 4:18 但义人的途径好象黎明的光，越照越明，直到日午。

出 33:11 上 耶和与摩西面对面说话，好象人与同伴说话一般。…

出 34:3 谁也不可和你一同上去，遍山都不可有人，在山前也不可叫羊群牛群吃草。

出 34:4 摩西就凿出两块石版，和先前的一样；清晨起来，照耶和与华所吩咐的上西乃山去，手里拿着两块石版。

可 1:35 清早，天还黑，耶稣起来，到旷野地方去，在那里祷告。

3 我们来到施恩宝座前祷告的时候，恩典就象江河一样，在我们里面涌流，并供应我们一来四 16，参启二二 1。

来 4:16 所以我们只管坦然无惧地来到施恩的宝座前，为要受怜悯，得恩典，作应时的帮助。

启 22:1 天使又指给我看，在城内街道当中一道生命水的河，明亮如水晶，从神和羔羊的宝座流出来。

二 为了要在神这一边与撒但争战，我们就必须坚定持续地祷告——但六 10：

但 6:10 但以理知道这文书已经签署了，就到自己家里，（他楼上的窗户，开向耶路撒冷，）一日三次，双膝跪下，在他神面前祷告感谢，因他素常就是这样行。

1 我们这些与神站在一起的人，发现整个宇宙都在反对我们，尤其是反对我们的祷告；敌挡祷告的不仅在我们外面，也在我们里面——太二六 41。

太 26:41 要做醒祷告，免得入了试诱；你们的灵固然愿意，肉体却软弱了。

2 祷告就是反堕落宇宙中的潮流、趋势——路十八 1 ~ 8。

路 18:1 耶稣又对他们讲一个比喻，是要人常常祷告，不可灰心，说，

路 18:2 某城里有一个审判官，不惧怕神，也不尊重人。

路 18:3 那城里有个寡妇，常到他那里，说，我有一个对头，求你给我伸冤。

2. To meet with God in the morning is not only to meet with Him early in the day; it is also to meet with God in a situation that is full of light; we should go to God alone, without any persons, matters, or things to distract or occupy us—Prov. 4:18; Exo. 33:11a; 34:3-4; Mark 1:35.

Prov 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, / Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

Exo 33:11a And Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion. ...

Exo 34:3 And no one shall come up with you, nor let anyone be seen anywhere on the mountain, nor let the flocks or herds graze in front of that mountain.

Exo 34:4 So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose up early in the morning and went up to Mount Sinai, just as Jehovah had commanded him; and he took two tablets of stone in his hand.

Mark 1:35 And rising very early in the morning, while it was still night, He went out and went away to a deserted place, and there He prayed.

3. When we pray, coming forward to the throne of grace, grace will become a river flowing in us and supplying us—Heb. 4:16; cf. Rev. 22:1.

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come forward with boldness to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace for timely help.

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

B. In order to fight on God's side against Satan, we need to persevere in prayer——Dan. 6:10:

Dan 6:10 Now when Daniel came to know that the writing had been signed, he went to his house (in his upper room he had windows open toward Jerusalem) and three times daily he knelt on his knees and prayed and gave thanks before his God, because he had always done so previously.

1. As those who take sides with God, we find that the whole fallen universe is against us and, in particular, against our prayer; resistance to prayer lies not only outside of us but even within us——Matt. 26:41.

Matt 26:41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

2. To pray is to go against the current, the trend, in the fallen universe——Luke 18:1-8.

Luke 18:1 And He told them a parable to the end that they ought always to pray and not lose heart,

Luke 18:2 Saying, There was a certain judge in a certain city who did not fear God and did not regard man.

Luke 18:3 And there was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, Avenger me of my opponent.

路 18:4 他多时不肯，后来心里说，我虽不惧怕神，也不尊重人，
路 18:5 只因这寡妇常常搅扰我，我就给她伸冤吧，免得她不断来缠磨我。
路 18:6 主说，你们听这不义的审判官所说的。
路 18:7 神的选民昼夜呼吁祂，祂纵然为他们忍耐着，岂不终久给他们伸冤么？
路 18:8 我告诉你们，祂要快快的给他们伸冤了。然而，人子来的时候，在地上找得到信心么？

三 我们该划出定时祷告的时间；我们的态度应当把祷告当作我们最重要的事，不让任何的事打岔—但六 10，徒十二 5、12。

但 6:10 但以理知道这文书已经签署了，就到自己家里，（他楼上的窗户，开向耶路撒冷，）一日三次，双膝跪下，在他神面前祷告感谢，因他素常就是这样行。
徒 12:5 于是彼得被囚在监里，召会就为他切切的祷告神。
徒 12:12 他既明白过来，就往那称呼马可的约翰他母亲马利亚家去，在那里有好些人聚集祷告。

四 我们需要借着不断操练我们的灵，留在祷告的气氛里—弗六 18，提前四 7，提后一 7，西一 3、9：

弗 6:18 时时在灵里祷告，并尽力坚持，在这事上儆醒，且为众圣徒祈求，
提前 4:7 只是要弃绝那世俗的言语，和老妇的虚构无稽之事，并要操练自己以至于敬虔。
提后 1:7 因为神赐给我们的，不是胆怯的灵，乃是能力、爱、并清明自守的灵。
西 1:3 我们感谢神，我们主耶稣基督的父，常常为你们祷告，
西 1:9 所以，我们自从听见的日子，也就为你们不住地祷告祈求，愿你们在一切属灵的智慧 and 悟性上，充分认识神的旨意，

1 我们需要不住地祷告，坚定持续地祷告，保持自己亲密地联于主—帖前五 17，太二六 41，西二 19。

帖前 5:17 不住地祷告，
太 26:41 要做醒祷告，免得入了试诱；你们的灵固然愿意，肉体却软弱了。
西 2:19 不持定元首；本于祂，全身借着节和筋，得了丰富的供应，并结合一起，就以神的增长而长大。

2 即使在最小的事上，我们都要求问主；这样作，就是坚定持续的祷告，并因此而活基督—参书九

Luke 18:4 And for a time he would not; but afterward he said within himself, Even though I do not fear God nor regard man,
Luke 18:5 Yet because this widow causes me trouble, I will avenge her, lest by continually coming she wear me out.
Luke 18:6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unrighteous judge says.
Luke 18:7 And will not God by all means carry out the avenging of His chosen ones, who cry to Him day and night, though He is long-suffering over them?
Luke 18:8 I tell you that He will carry out their avenging quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?

C. We need to set aside definite times for prayer; our attitude should be that prayer is our most important business and that nothing should be allowed to interfere with it—Dan. 6:10; Acts 12:5, 12.

Dan 6:10 Now when Daniel came to know that the writing had been signed, he went to his house (in his upper room he had windows open toward Jerusalem) and three times daily he knelt on his knees and prayed and gave thanks before his God, because he had always done so previously.
Acts 12:5 So then Peter was kept in the prison; but prayer was being made fervently by the church to God concerning him.
Acts 12:12 And when he became aware of this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, who was surnamed Mark, where there was a considerable number assembled together and praying.

D. We need to remain in an atmosphere of prayer by continually exercising our spirit—Eph. 6:18; 1 Tim. 4:7; 2 Tim. 1:7; Col. 1:3, 9:

Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
1 Tim 4:7 But the profane and old-womanish myths refuse, and exercise yourself unto godliness.
2 Tim 1:17 But being in Rome, he sought me out diligently and found me.
Col 1:3 We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always concerning you,
Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

1. We need to pray without ceasing, to persevere in prayer, keeping ourselves intimately connected to the Lord—1 Thes. 5:17; Matt. 26:41; Col. 2:19.

1 Thes 5:17 Unceasingly pray,
Matt 26:41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.
Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

2. Even in the smallest details we need to inquire of the Lord; to do this is to persevere in prayer and thereby to live Christ—cf. Josh. 9:14;

14, 腓四7~8。

书 9:14 以色列人受了他们些食物, 并没有求耶和華指示。

腓 4:7 神那超越人所能理解的平安, 必在基督耶稣里, 保卫你们的心怀意念。

腓 4:8 末了的话, 弟兄们, 凡是真实的, 凡是庄重的, 凡是公义的, 凡是纯洁的, 凡是可爱的, 凡是有美名的; 若有什么德行, 若有什么称赞, 这些事你们都要思念。

肆 我们借着坚定持续的祷告, 受基督的平安管治, 并被基督的话内住, 祂就以祂自己浸润并顶替我们, 直到我们一切天然的区别都被消除, 我们就在实际里成为新人—西三 15~17, 四 2~3, 三 10~11。

西 3:15 又要让基督的平安在你们心里作仲裁, 你们在一个身体里蒙召, 也是为了这平安; 且要感恩。

西 3:16 当用各样的智慧, 让基督的话丰富地住在你们里面, 用诗章、颂辞、灵歌, 彼此教导, 互相劝戒, 心被恩感歌颂神;

西 3:17 凡你们所作的, 无论是什么, 或说话, 或行事, 都要在主耶稣的名里, 借着祂感谢父神。

西 4:2 你们要坚定持续地祷告, 在此儆醒感恩,

西 4:3 同时也要为我们祷告, 求神给我们开传道的门, 能以讲说基督的奥秘, (我也为此被捆锁,)

西 3:10 并且穿上了新人; 这新人照着创造他者的形像渐渐更新, 以致有充足的知识;

西 3:11 在此并没有希利尼人和犹太人、受割礼的和未受割礼的、化外人、西古提人、为奴的、自主的, 唯有基督是一切, 又在一切之内。

Phil. 4:7-8.

Josh 9:14 And the men took some of their provisions, but they did not ask for the counsel of Jehovah.

Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Phil 4:8 Finally, brothers, what things are true, what things are dignified, what things are righteous, what things are pure, what things are lovely, what things are well spoken of, if there is any virtue and if any praise, take account of these things.

IV. As we are ruled by the peace of Christ and inhabited by the word of Christ through persevering in prayer, He permeates and replaces us with Himself until all our natural distinctions have been eliminated, and we become the new man in reality—Col. 3:15-17; 4:2-3; 3:10-11.

Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

Col 4:3 Praying at the same time for us also, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ (because of which also I am bound),

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Col 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.