THE EXPANSE OF A RESURRECTED LIFE

BOOK THEME: ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES

OBJECTIVE: LEARN HOW TO LIVE A LIFE DEVOTED TO

WATCHFUL PRAYER COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

DATE: PART 1B

1. WE SHOULD <u>DEVOTE</u> OURSELVES TO AN <u>ENLARGED</u> <u>PRAYER</u> <u>LIFE</u> V.2-3A

OUR PRAYERS SHOULD BE PERCEPTIVELY PRACTICAL.

1 PETER 5:8, "BE SELF-CONTROLLED AND ALERT. YOUR ENEMY THE DEVIL PROWLS AROUND LIKE A ROARING LION LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO DEVOUR."

<u>FALLING</u> TO THE <u>DECEPTION</u> OF <u>SUBSTITUTES</u> AND <u>DISTRACTIONS</u> MOST ASSUREDLY <u>KEEPS</u> YOU <u>FROM</u> A <u>DEVOTED</u> <u>PRAYER</u> <u>LIFE</u> THAT IS <u>WATCHFUL</u>.

ARE YOU BEING WATCHFUL IN YOUR PRAYERS?

OUR PRAYERS SHOULD BE PERSISTENTLY THANKFUL.

"THANKFULNESS IS THE ENVIRONMENT FOR GOOD PRAYING, AND IT PROVIDES A SAFEGUARD FOR INFORMED PRAYING."

WATCHFUL PRAYER IN THANKSGIVING DOESN'T AVOID THE OBSTACLES WE FACE, BUT RIGHTLY RECOGNIZES THAT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD.

WHEN <u>OUR PRAYERS</u> ARE <u>FILLED</u> WITH <u>THANKSGIVING</u>, WE ARE <u>LESS LIKELY</u> TO BE <u>LED ASTRAY</u> IN <u>THINKING</u> THAT <u>LIFE REVOLVES AROUND US INSTEAD</u> OF <u>GOD</u>.

THANKFULNESS FREES US FROM TRYING TO PLAY GOD BECAUSE IT REVEALS HOW TRULY DEPENDENT WE ARE.

OUR PRAYERS SHOULD BE PERSONALLY DIRECTED.

GOD IS A PERSONAL GOD WHO KNOWS OUR NAME.

PRAYING FOR OTHERS BY NAME DEVELOPS A LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF BOND BETWEEN YOU AND THEM.

1 SAMUEL 12:23, "AS FOR ME, FAR BE IT FROM ME THAT I SHOULD SIN AGAINST THE LORD BY FAILING TO PRAY FOR YOU."