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BELONG

Have you ever played a musical instrument? Which one(s)? Did it come easily to you or did you have to practice? Did you like to practice or did you sometimes make excuses not to practice? What was the role of practice in helping you to improve? What role did other people play in helping you to improve? Do you still play that instrument?

GROW

1. Read Colossians 4:2 and Thessalonians 5:17. What does it mean to be devoted to prayer? In what ways have you been devoted to prayer? In what ways could you become more devoted to prayer?
2. Considering Colossians 4:2 and Matthew 36:36-41, what does it mean to be watchful in prayer? In what ways have you been watchful in prayer? In what ways could you improve in this area?
3. Looking at Colossians 4:2, what does it mean to be thankful in prayer? Have you been thankful in prayer? Why or why not? How could you become more thankful in prayer? What can you be thankful for even in the midst of difficult times?
4. Read Colossians 4:2 together. Do you ever grow tired of praying? Do answers to prayer sometimes come more slowly than you would like? What is the role of persistence in prayer? How does devotion to prayer reflect your faith in God?
5. Read Colossians 4:2--4. At gracespring, we have summarized our purpose as follows: BELONG in real relationships. GROW to be like Jesus. REACH people where we live, work and play. In what ways does this statement reflect Colossians 4:2-4? How well does your small group assist you in contributing to this purpose?

REACH

Consider Colossians 4:3-4, Matthew 7:7-12, John 3:30, 6:44, and Ephesians 1:13-14. For what do you typically pray? What are we told to pray for Colossians 4:3-4? How often do you pray as instructed in these verses? How can you more effectively pray this way? To Whom can you turn for help to pray this way?

GOING DEEPER

Read Colossians 4:2-4. What obstacles have you experienced in your prayer life, now and in the past? What excuses have kept you from more effective prayer? What has helped you to overcome these? What has helped you to grow in your prayer life? What obstacles and/or excuses still need to be overcome? Where can you continue to grow in your prayer life? How can you help each other to grow in your prayer lives?