

#33. *Incorruptible Love*

Vss. 19,20

... and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

An endnote about “intentionality”

1. WHAT we should always be praying for: *Boldly making known* the mystery of the gospel.
2. WHAT we should always be living for: *ditto*

Vss. 21,22

But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

An endnote about “instrumentality”

3. WHY we should always be praying: In general, God *chooses to use people* to accomplish His work in the world.

4. WHY we should be “faithfully ministering”: *ditto*

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

...

Vss. 23,24

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

An endnote to summarize the whole letter

5. God gives *peace and love and grace* to those who have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Peace x 7</u>	<u>Love x 14</u>	<u>Grace x 12</u>	<u>Faith x 8</u>
1:2	1:4,15	1:2,6,7	1:15
2:14,15,17	2:4	2:5,7,8	2:8
4:3	3:17,19	3:7,8	3:12,17
6:15	4:2,15,16	4:7,29	4:5,13
6:23	5:2,25,28,33	6:24	6:16,23
	6:23,24		

6. The effect in our lives: *Loving* the Lord Jesus Christ *with incorruptible love*.