

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 1, 2007

"The Friends of Christ"

John 15:16

How should we, as the friends of Christ pray in light of Christ's expressed will that we bear fruit?

We need to pray for workers (Matthew 9:35-38).

The word "distressed" (SKULLO) means flaying or skinning. It often connotes the idea of being battered, bruised, mangled and ripped apart.

The word "downcast" (RHIPTO) has the basic meaning of being thrown down prostrate and utterly helpless, as from drunkenness or a mortal wound.

Disciples who pray for workers will inevitably become workers in God's harvest field (Matthew 10:1-7).

We also need to pray for open doors for the word (Colossians 4:2-3).

When Paul asked the Colossian church to pray for him that a door for the Word might be opened, he was in a Roman prison (Colossians 4:1-3).

Though Paul was in a Roman prison, his prayer and the prayer of others that a door for the Word would be opened, was powerfully and wonderfully answered (Philippians 1:12-13).

We need to pray for confidence to speak the Word boldly when the doors are opened (Acts 4:23-31).

May God give us the grace to commit ourselves to pray for workers, for open doors and courage as we look out over the Antelope Valley and the fields that are white for harvest.