

# Intentional



## **Foot to the Floor** July 31, 2022

**Speaker:** Pastor Joel Schmidgall

**Scripture:** Colossians 4:2-4

**Sermon Overview:** Intentional faith starts with praying a simple prayer: God where are you at work and how can I be a part? But when our foot hits the floor, it's time to activate and live out that of which God is making us aware. We go from praying a prayer, to living a prayer. Join us as we talk about developing a prayer state of mind, cultivating story, acting as witness, and calling out God's image.

### **Sermon Series Questions:**

- Where is God at work around you? What are some ways you can intentionally be a part of it?
- 1 Corinthians 9:23 (TPT) says, "I've done all this so that I would become God's partner for the sake of the gospel." What does ongoing "partnering" with God look like?

### **Sermon Specific Questions:**

- Colossians 4:2 says to devote yourself to "prayer", not "a prayer", but "prayer". Reflect on your past week, and ask the Lord to bring a specific circumstance to your mind. How can you guard yourself with gratitude? How could prayer transform your circumstances?
- "The first act of love is always the giving of attention." ~Dallas Willard. When was a time that you felt unnoticed and unseen? How could someone else's attentiveness have

changed your heart? Now, ask the Lord to bring someone to mind that is in your circle of relationships. How can you direct your attention to that person and demonstrate God's love?

- Our role is to love - not to judge and not to convict; our role is to love. What does it look like in our culture to love someone where they are without trying to change them? In your interactions on social media? In your interactions at work?
- What does it mean to be a witness for the Lord? What is your reason for the hope that you hold?

### **Digging Deeper:**

- Download the "Cultivate your testimony" worksheet through the NCC App. Spend some time writing out your testimony. Is there someone that the Lord brings to mind with whom you could share your testimony?
- Spend some time listening to a neighbor, colleague, or friend. Before you engage with this person, ask the Lord to help you to listen rather than speak. Ask questions that show you are concerned about and interested in that person's story. Avoid giving advice unless the person specifically asks you for your opinion. Use any words that you do speak to demonstrate understanding and empathy.
- What is an act of love that you could do on purpose, with intention, but that you could do without being recognized? Store up a treasure in Heaven and ask the Lord what you could do to show someone else you noticed them but to do it in a way that avoids being recognized for your good deed.

### **Practical Application:**

- Tune in to NCC Daily—Deep-dive the book of James through short teachings M-F. Get NCC Daily on our app or at [ncc.re/daily](http://ncc.re/daily).
- Join a small group [ncc.re/groups](http://ncc.re/groups) to discover ways you can use your talents and passions to serve the various church campuses in-person and online.
- Make a Bible reading plan a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).