

Potent Prayer for God's People:
Praying for others during times of change
Colossians 1:9-14

Learning from the way Paul prayed for others:

1. Pray _____.
Colossians 1:9 a
2. Pray they will _____ God's Will.
Colossians 1:9 b
3. Pray they will _____ for a life that pleases God.
Colossians 1:10a

What does a life that pleases God look like?

- * Desiring a _____ life (Colossians 1:10b)
- * Desiring a _____ with God (Colossians 1:10c)
- * Desiring a _____ life (Colossians 1:11)
- * Desiring a _____ life (Colossians 1:12a)

4. Praise God for His _____ and _____.

Reflection and Discussion

for Small Groups

1. Sometimes, we pray for others, but how often do our prayers involve their spiritual growth? How can we pray for others to grow in Christ?

2. Why do we seem to lack perseverance, patience, and joy? How can we seek God to empower us to have these characteristics permeate our lives?

3. Pick someone in your Small Group to pray for and encourage during the summer. Pray Col 1:9-14 over them. For example,

Pray that they may have spiritual wisdom (v.9), live a pleasing life to the Lord (v.10), and they would bear spiritual fruit (v.10). Text them during the summer to let them know how you are praying for them.

... **"bearing fruit in every good work" (10)**

4. What attitude should I approach my work with? What are some more good works I can do? Are there good works I can do for people in the Church?

... **"growing in the knowledge of God" (10)**

5. Practically, how can I grow to know God more, not just know about Him? Share some practical suggestions.

... **"being strengthened for perseverance and patience" (11)**

6. What are the areas I need strength to endure? How can I grow in my patience?

... **"giving thanks" (12)**

7. How do I keep being grateful? Practically, what should I do if I stop being thankful?

8. God has done amazing things for us. Look closely at verses 12-14 and discuss what are some of the things He has done for us. As a result, what should our overriding attitude to God be?

9. How often do we give thanks to God for our salvation? How would our lives change if we daily thanked Him for His saving grace given to us through Jesus?