5 DAYS OF PRAYING THROUGH

COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

Day 1—that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, (v.9)

Day 2— so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him:

Day 3—bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; (v.10)

Day 4—Being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; (v.11)

Day 5— giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (v.12-14)

Below is a five-day prayer guide to lead us through Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9-14.

Take time each day to reflect on what Paul prayed and then to pray over it. Pray this for yourself, family, small group, church, friends, missionaries, and others you think of.

Colossians 1:9

Pray

"that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding" (Col. 1:9).

For a similar prayer, see Paul's words in Eph. 1:16-17: "I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him."

Today's prayer focuses on knowing God, including the spiritual wisdom and understanding to know what pleases Him and is according to His will.

- Thank God for revealing Himself to us, and for the sufficiency and authority of Scripture to lead us in wisdom and knowledge.
- Pray that you would be more deeply rooted in the Bible as your authority and source of discernment and wisdom.
- Ask God to help you see who He is, and what He says is good, right, and pleasing.
- Confess ways you've turned to other sources as your authority or source of wisdom and understanding, such as the news, social-media, or websites. While these aren't bad, we can easily have other sources as our filter for seeing the world.

Colossians 1:10

Pray

"so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him" (Col. 1:10).

See also, Col. 2:6-7, when Paul writes, "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Today's prayer asks that God would translate what we know about Him (Col. 1:9) into our lives so that our thoughts, desires, words, and action—our walk—would reflect Him.

- Thank God that he gives us the Word to show us the glory of Jesus, and the Spirit to empower us to walk in a manner that reflects Christ's worth.
- Pray that we would root ourselves in knowing Jesus and abiding in him so that he would show up in how we walk and talk.
- Ask God to protect you from temptation and deliver you from evil (Matt. 6:13).
- Confess any areas of your life, any sins, that you know are incompatible with or don't reflect Christ. Thank God for the forgiveness God gives, and ask Him to change you.

Colossians 1:10

Pray

that you would "bear fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:10).

Consider the words of Jesus when he said, "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:4-5).

Today's prayer continues the theme of yesterday, asking God to continue to bear fruit in our lives and growing our knowledge of God and relationship with Him.

- Pray that God would open your eyes to see Christ's glory, goodness, and grace in the Bible.
- Ask that God would renew you in the image of Christ (Col. 3:10) as you grow in the knowledge of him and see what he's like.
- Ask God to open doors today to walk in Christ and the "good works" He has for you (Eph. 2:10).
- Thank God that our justification and right standing with God isn't based on our work but on Christ's work, but also that Jesus matures the ones he saves.
- Ask God to give you a desire for growing in the knowledge of Him more than any other interest in this world.

Colossians 1:11

Pray

"to be "strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy" (Col. 1:11).

Paul also prays for the Ephesians, "According to the working of his great might that he [God] worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead" (Eph. 1:19-20).

Today's prayer reminds us all of these things (Col. 1:9-14) are only possible in God's strength, patience, and power. Rather than relying on our limited resources, we turn to Him.

- Thank God that He not only gives us wisdom, but He also gives strength. Thank Him that the same power—the Holy Spirit—who raised Christ from the dead is resurrecting us.
- Pray for God's strength, might, and endurance in areas where you're discouraged, worried, or overwhelmed right now.
- Ask God to give you endurance, patience, and joy in whatever you're walking through today, knowing this only comes in His power and not your own.
- Confess to God ways you trust in your own power, wisdom, and strength.
 Thank God that there is nothing too hard for Him. Praise Him as your all-powerful God (see Jer. 32:17) and entrust your cares to Him.

Colossians 1:12-14

Pray

by "giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Col. 1:12-14).

Later, Paul also adds: "And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him" (Col. 1:13-15).

Today's prayer is full of thanksgiving for the amazing grace of the gospel of Jesus. We can live different (Col. 1:9-11) because in Christ we are different (1:12-14). Rejoice in what God has done for you in Christ and what he is doing now.

- Thank God for the forgiveness of sins we have because of Christ's substitutionary death on the cross. Give Him praise for redeeming us out of darkness and into light.
- Confess any ways you've lived according to or trusted in your own performance to earn God's favor rather that God's promises and grace.
- Ask God to keep the beauty of the gospel and even the wonder of how God saved you personally fresh in your heart.
- Pray that you would today walk in the forgiveness, freedom, and light that Jesus purchased for you.
- Ask God to open a door this week to share this good news with an unbeliever. Pray that God would use the preached Word on Sunday to redeem people to Himself.

Colossians 1:9-14

Reflection

"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."