



WEEK 1

A Prayer for the Colossians

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

WARM-UP

- Do you like writing notes or letters to friends or loved ones?
Why or why not?
- Do you consider yourself to be the sentimental or nostalgic type?
What sorts of memorabilia or messages do you like to keep? Why?
- Recall a time when you or your loved ones were in danger.
What did you do?

WORD

⁹And 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, ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy . . . **COLOSSIANS 1:9-11**

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the church in Colossae, who had heard the gospel through the ministry of Epaphras. At that time, the church was facing dangerous false teachings and they needed to safeguard and follow what they had already been taught about Jesus. They had to learn to walk out their faith and not fall into heresy. In this passage, Paul shares his prayer for them, that they may have wisdom and knowledge from God, that they may bear fruit in Him, and that they may have divine power to be strong and endure. In this lesson, we will look at his prayer and how this can be applied to our lives.

1 Wisdom

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 . . . **COLOSSIANS 1:9**

At a time when they were tempted to add good works and rituals to Christ's finished and complete work on the cross, Paul prayed that the church would have the knowledge and wisdom that can only come from God. This would keep them from following any false gospel or false teaching. Why do you think Paul prayed for them to be *filled* with the knowledge of God's will? Why can't we just pray to have a little bit or just enough? Why does God want us to be *filled*?

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2 Character

... 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. **COLOSSIANS 1:10**

Paul also prayed that the church would mature, grow, and bear fruit. This changed life would be the result of being filled with wisdom. Because of what Jesus has already done for us, we can walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and we are already pleasing in His sight. As a result, our lives will bear fruit and we will be able to do the good works He has prepared for us (Ephesians 2:8,9). As you walk with God, how is He transforming you to become more like Him? Share one specific area.

3 Power

¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **COLOSSIANS 1:11,12**

Paul continues his prayer of blessing, for the church to be strengthened in God's power so that they may have endurance, patience, and joy. As Christians, we can't live the life God has for us without His power. We are to rely on His strength and ability to get us through challenges and temptations. Who qualified you to share in God's inheritance? How much of this comes from yourself?

APPLICATION

- Do you understand who Jesus is, what He has done for you, and why you need a Savior? How has this changed your life?
- Are you walking in a manner worthy of the Lord? What's one thing you will start doing differently this week?
- How can you know God and His Word more every day? Share one practical thing you will do to know Him more.

PRAYER

- Thank God for who He is, what He has done for you, and how He reveals Himself to you through His Word.
- Pray Colossians 1:9-12 over your life and for those in your Victory group.
- Pray that you would never attempt to add anything to Christ's finished and complete work on the cross.



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