



Week 4: A Different Kind of Prayer, Part 1

Sunday, September 18, 2022

† Corrective lenses

The lens of Christian culture sees prayer primarily as the means by which WE ask God to do things FOR us.
Philippians 4:6-7

The lens of Scripture sees prayer primarily as the way we open our hearts for the work GOD desires to do IN us.

† Unceasing
Colossians 1:9a

† Knowledge, wisdom, and understanding
Colossians 1:9b

† Worthy and pleasing
Colossians 1:10a

† Bearing fruit
Colossians 1:10b, Ephesians 2:10

† Growing in knowledge
Colossians 1:10c

† Strengthened
Colossians 1:11, Ephesians 1:19-20

Questions for reflection and discussion

- What does it look like for you to *continually pray*? Even Paul likely didn't walk around in a state of continuous prayer, so what does this mean?
How is intentional prayer a consistent part of your daily life?
Why is this important?
- What does Paul mean when he prays we would be filled with the "knowledge of God's will?" What is God's greatest will for all believers? How does the Spirit lead us into wisdom and understanding?
- What are the greatest ways our lives are 'worthy and pleasing' to God?
How is this a prayer of encouragement, and not crushing pressure?
- What is the significance of scripture's description of a disciples 'good works' to be 'fruit'? What are examples of this in your life? How do you see this in the lives of other believers?
- Paul prays that we would be strengthened with *all the power of God's glorious might*. (Also see Eph 1:19-20) This is an incredible thought! In what ways might God answer this prayer? Why does Paul say we need God's strength in our lives? (We'll continue with this next week.)

Next week: Week 4- A different kind of prayer, part 1. Colossians 1:9-11
