

COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

We are Praying for You

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PAUL'S INTRODUCTION AND PRAYERS

1. Giving thanks for God's work in their lives (v.3-4)
2. God's work in their lives was a result of the hope of the gospel (v.5-6)
3. Epaphras, the one who taught them the gospel (v.7-8)

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APPLICATIONS

- Give thanks for one another, for God's work in the lives of your fellow church members.
- Meditate on the grace and peace you have with God through Jesus
- Ask: Do I love all the saints? How can I live out that care for my Christian brothers and sisters?

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Colossians 1: 9-14 (NASB)

⁹ For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience, joyously ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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BREAKDOWN OF COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

1. Be filled with the knowledge of **God's will** (vs. 9)
2. The purpose of following **God's will** (vs. 10)
3. The process of fulfilling **God's will** (vs. 10-12)
4. The privilege of freedom in **God's will** (vs. 13-14)

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 - God's will is "spiritual" in nature and can only be discerned accordingly.

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2. The Purpose Following **God's will** (vs. 10)

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 - God has a higher purpose in mind; to walk in in manner worthy of the Lord. We are to **desire** to please God, not ourselves.
 - We must also **live** to please

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3. The Process of Fulfilling **God's will** (vs. 10-12)

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- Growing in the gospel means **Go deep!**
- "**Being strengthened**" clarifies that the Lord is the active provider of divine enablement.
- **Giving thanks** to God should epitomize those who are devoted to God and His plan.

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4. The Privilege of Freedom in **God's will** (vs. 13-14)

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- We have been delivered from the domain of darkness, and now reside in God's kingdom.
- Our freedom from sin is a freedom to serve the one, true, living God.

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CHALLENGE

- Do you appreciate the significance of this opportunity to pursue God's perfect will?
- Identify and put into practice ways in which this passage, this prayer can influence your relationship with other believers and the world.

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