

JESUS FIRST

#2 The Ministry of Prayer

Colossians 1:9-14 (ESV)

PREEMINENCE PRINCIPLE #2:
Putting Jesus First will lead us to Pray for
Spiritual Growth in Others

Colossians 1:9 *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, 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, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

LEARNING PRAYER MINISTRY FROM PAUL

1. The Ministry Of Prayer Involves Learning To Pray Reflexively

Colossians 1:9 *And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you...*

2. The Ministry Of Prayer Includes Learning To Pray Spiritually

A SPIRITUAL PRAYER FOCUS

"O Lord, may your people ..."

Be consumed with God's will! 1:9

Gain spiritual wisdom and understanding! 1:9

Walk worthy of Christ! 1:10

Please God! 1:10

Be spiritually productive! 1:10

Know God more deeply! 1:10

Joyfully endure hardship by God's power! 1:11

Be grateful! 1:12

3. The Ministry Of Prayer is Informed by Awareness

- Growing awareness of their condition and influences
- Greater awareness of God's provision and power

Colossians 1:12 *...the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

God through Christ has already done everything that needs to be done!

FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Read verse 9: What are some ways we, individually and as a family, can begin to be filled with "the knowledge" of God, His will, and His wisdom?

Read verse 10: In verse 10, Paul says that he is praying that the Colossian people would be "bearing fruit". Read Galatians 5:22-23 and read through the list of fruits it gives. Choose one and pray that God would fill you up with it.

Read verses 13 & 14: Mom and Dad, share with your kids your story of how and when you became a Christian.

BIBLE READING PLAN

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Isaiah 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Isaiah 5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Isaiah 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Isaiah 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Isaiah 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Isaiah 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Isaiah 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Isaiah 8 |

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