

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-20 “Walk This Way...”

01/18/2026

PAUL’S PRAYER

COL 1:9-12 “And so, from the day we heard [of your faith and love], 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 spiritual understanding...
- ¹⁰ 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;
 - ¹¹ being strengthened with all power,
 - according to His glorious might,
 - for all endurance and patience with joy;
 - ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

Last week we studied what it meant to “walk worthy of the Lord.” This “walk” is not accomplished BY God FOR us. This is OUR responsibility. In Paul’s writing it is a something we should DO until it is completed. This walk is THROUGH God BY us. This “life-style” is important. So, Paul makes this a matter of PRAYER for the Believers. God’s help is available.

FULLY PLEASING

“Pleasing in every way...” – Pleasing TO the Lord is NOT in order to “gain His favor” but because we have received His favor we desire to please Him...

- This echoes the same principle as “worthy” and carries the idea of “what will you DO with what you have received?”
- “God spared my life...” – VietNam – not just because he had a “purpose” for Me ... but as a result... “What Will I Do With My Life?”
Private Ryan: “Tell me I have been a good man...”
- HE “SAVED YOU” ... “WHY? What is it About?”

BEARING FRUIT

One of the ways we are “pleasing to the Lord” is in “bearing fruit”
The source of our ability to “bear fruit” is by the indwelling Spirit of God.
The word for “Bearing fruit” means to make the fruit visible –

It is IN them... but it must be SHOWN BY THEM...

- “Fruit of the Spirit” – ALL of the Nine “fruit of the Spirit” are a result of the presence of God in us. (Fruit is IN the tree ... just not visible)
- “Fruit of our Work” – The “works of our faith” are drawn from God’s ability in us by His Divine presence.

JOHN 14-16; EPH 2:10; PHIL 2:12-13

Paul’s desire is to SEE these qualities demonstrated in the Saints.

INCREASING

“Increasing in the Knowledge of God” - There are “3” aspects of this Knowledge...

- Knowledge of Who God is...
- Knowledge the comes FROM God...
- Knowledge of WHAT He desires for my life / situation -

ALL are a result of the Spirit’s presence IN our Life... and of HIS Word made available to us.

THIS is Paul’s desire... THIS is His Prayer...