

May 4, 2026
Devoted to Prayer
Part Five | Colossians 4:2

Colossians 4:2 NLT reads

² Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 NKJ reads

² Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

Colossians 4:2 AMP reads

² Be earnest and unwearied and steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both.] alert and intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving.

Devoted is an adjective, a descriptive word and it is characterized by loyalty and devotion:
a religious fervor : b : an act of prayer or private worship
c : the fact or state of being ardently dedicated and loyal.

Devotion and the verb devote come from the Latin verb *vovēre* which means "to vow".

Devote was once used as an adjective that could mean either "devout" or "devoted." While devout implies faithfulness of a religious nature. Devoted refers to one's commitment to another through love and loyalty.

In light of these definitions;

How do we become devoted to prayer?

The only way we can develop an unmovable trust in God is by knowing God and by knowing the promises of God. It is by knowing God and by knowing the promises of God that we can become fully devoted to prayer.

When you develop more of a knowledge of God, you will spend more time proclaiming His character in prayer. You will then fully trust Him, you will then fully fasten yourself onto Him.

Being devoted to prayer means faithfulness and commitment to the Lord through love and loyalty.

It is difficult to fully love Him and to be fully loyal to Him if you do not develop a knowledge of God. In order to fully trust in Him you must know Him.

So, in this last study in this series would like to give you ways that will help you develop your knowledge of God through His Word.

Throughout the scriptures we are instructed, exhorted and told that we must know God.

Jeremiah 9:23-24

²³ Thus says the Lord:

“Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom,
Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might,
Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches;

²⁴ But let him who glories glory in this,

That he understands and knows Me,

That I *am* the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, ^{la}judgment, and righteousness in the earth.
For in these I delight,” says the Lord.

Deuteronomy 7:9

Therefore, know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.

1 Chronicles 28:9 AMPLIFIED

“As for you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father [have personal knowledge of Him, be acquainted with, and understand Him; appreciate, heed, and cherish Him] and serve Him with a blameless heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts *and* minds, and understands every intent *and* inclination of the thoughts. If you seek Him [inquiring for and of Him and requiring Him as your first and vital necessity] He will let you find Him; but if you abandon (turn away from) Him, He will reject you forever.

Psalm 46:10

Be still and know that I am God

Psalm 46:10 AMPLIFIED

¹⁰ Let be *and* be still and know (recognize and understand) that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations! I will be exalted in the earth!

Jeremiah 31:34

³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

In John 17, the chapter of great prayer.

This entire chapter consists of a prayer of Jesus. In this chapter he prays for three specific requests.

He prays for Himself. (verses 1-5)

He prays for His disciples. (verses 6-19)

He prays for all believers. (verses 20-26)

Please notice what Jesus prays in verse 3:

³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

To know in the Greek means to: perceive, recognize, become acquainted with and understand.

Oh, that we should know Him deeply and understand Him. And this takes a commitment, a determination, and a perseverance on your part.

Andrew Murray: (quote on God's attribute of Holiness)

Nowhere can we get to know the holiness of God and come under its influence and power, except in the inner chamber. It has been well said: "No man can expect to make progress in holiness who is not often and long alone with God.

This is true of knowing any and all of God's attributes.

We see in Philippians 3:10, Paul expresses his deep desire to know Christ. It was the goal of Paul's life; he proclaims in verse 10, that I may know Him. Oh, that it would be the goal of our lives and the passion of our hearts, to know Him more deeply.

The Amplified reads this way:

"For my determined purpose is that I may know Him, that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His person, more strongly and more clearly."

There is a deep desire and a heartfelt cry behind the simple words Lord, I want to know you! So, let's look at this statement and examine our hearts.

For my determined purpose is to Know Him:

Is this your determined purpose? If not, be sure to make it your determined purpose and your burning desire. Pray for it. And don't settle for less when it comes to learning more of the knowledge of God.

That I may progressively become deeply and intimately acquainted with Him:

I love the word progressively. Progress is defined as continuing on, moving forward.

Do you hold this thought? Do you progressively want to become more deeply and closely acquainted with Him? I don't know about you but I certainly do not want to stay at this level of the knowledge of God that I have grasped; I want to progress in learning more of God's character.

To perceive and recognize and understand the wonders of His person:

Do you desire to perceive and recognize and understand the wonders of His person? This is so very important because, as I have stated; in order to fully rely and trust in Him we must perceive and recognize and understand the wonders of His person. When we do, we will not waiver in our faith and the result is that we will be devoted to prayer.

(To perceive and recognize and understand the wonders of His person) more strongly and more clearly:

More strongly so that our lives would have a significant effectiveness for Him. More clearly so that we would have an accurate knowledge of who He is.

To say, Lord I want to know You means so much more than simply what is stated.

So, let me ask you once again; do you know Him?

Becoming more acquainted with the character of God will produce in you godly maturity, a fear of the Lord and reverence for Him and will drive you to be more devoted in prayer.

The key to truly knowing God is found in what God has revealed about Himself in the Bible.

We clearly learn the truth of God's character and will come to understand the depth of His infinite love through His Names. Which are found in His Word.

In His Name is limitless power and it is in His name that all that He is becomes revealed to us.

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and are safe.

Isaiah 50:10

“Who among you fears the Lord?
Who obeys the voice of His Servant?
Who walks in darkness
And has no light?
Let him trust in the name of the Lord
And rely upon his God.

Psalm 20:7 NLT

Some nations boast of their chariots and horses,
but we boast in the name of the Lord our God.

What this verse is really saying:

Some boast in their efforts or earthly means but we will boast in All that God is and will become to us because we are more confident in Who He is.

In the Hebrew; to boast means to have a confidence in , to trust in. Therefore; to boast in the name of the Lord means to have confidence in all that defines Him.

God's name represents His character, His attributes , His nature.

So, to know His name is to know Him.

Psalm 8:1

Oh Lord our Lord how excellent is your name (your character, your attributes, your nature) in all the earth.

Pour over your Bible to seek out God's names.

Keep a journal consisting only of His Names. When you come across one of His Names as you are reading the Word, stop, write out the name, think on it and lift up a prayer to Him.

Adonai "Lord, Master"
El "Mighty and Strong"
El-Elyon "The Most High God"
Elohim "Creator"
El-Roi "The Lord Sees"
El-Shaddai "The All-Sufficient One"
Jehovah "The Self -Existent One"
Yaweh or Jehovah "I AM"
Jehovah- Jira "The Lord Provides"
Jehovah-Mekoddishkem "The Lord Who Sanctifies"
Jehovah -Raah "The Lord My Shepherd"
Jehovah-Rapha "The Lord that Heals"
Jehovah-Sabaoth "The Lord of Hosts"
Jehovah Shalom" The Lord is Peace"
Jehovah Shammah "The Lord is There"
Jehovah Tsidkenu "The Lord our Righteousness"
Jehovah Nissi "The Lord our Banner"

These are all that He wants to become to you. Will you let Him?

Psalm 9:10

And those who know your name will put their trust in Thee; For thou, O Lord, has not forsaken those who seek you.

Webster defines confidence as : firm belief, trust reliance, feeling certain assurance.

When we know Him, we are confident in Him and when we have certain assurance in all God can do, we become devoted to prayer.

We need to seek out the presence of God and fight the distractions that keep us from entering into His presence.

E.M. Bounds

There are and there ought to be, stated seasons of communion with God when everything else shut out, we come into His presence to talk to Him and to let Him speak to us; and out of such seasons springs that beautiful habit of prayer that weaves a golden bond between earth and heaven.

Tonight, I want to give you a practical step by step way(a how-to) to develop your knowledge of God.

As Pastor Phil said; we need to prepare and steady our walks in the peaceful/ good times so that when crisis hits, we can fully trust in God.

So, let's turn together to Psalm 62.

It has been said, "pour over your bible until the face of Jesus appears."

1. The Word is where you find out who God is and therefore is the best devotional you can daily use. We have extra journals, please take a couple and use them for penning the character of God.

Psalm 62:1-12

1 Truly my soul silently *waits* for God;
From Him *comes my salvation*.

2 He only *is my rock and my salvation*;
He is my defense;
I shall not be greatly moved.

3 How long will you attack a man?
You shall be slain, all of you,
Like a leaning wall and a tottering fence.

4 They only consult to cast *him* down from his high position;
They delight in lies;
They bless with their mouth,
But they curse inwardly. *Selah*

5 My soul, wait silently for God alone,
For my expectation *is* from Him.

6 He only *is* my rock and my salvation;
He is my defense;
I shall not be moved.

7 In God *is* my salvation and my glory;
The rock of my strength,
And my refuge, is in God.

8 Trust in Him at all times, you people;
Pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

9 Surely men of low degree *are* a vapor,
Men of high degree *are* a lie;
If they are weighed on the scales,
They *are* altogether *lighter* than vapor.

10 Do not trust in oppression,
Nor vainly hope in robbery;
If riches increase,
Do not set *your* heart *on them*.

11 God has spoken once,
Twice I have heard this:
That power belongs to God.

12 Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy;
For You render to each one according to his work.

Questions for Devotions:

1. What is the psalmist praying or proclaiming?
He waits for Him; He trusts solely and only in Him to save and to keep him sure footed. In verses 3 and 4 the psalmist states his case before God.

Then once again, the psalmist proclaims that he will wait and hope only in God. He proclaims in verse 11 that the power belongs to God.

2. Ask yourself if you too, can apply what the psalmist is praying or proclaiming.

Am I waiting patiently for God to save? Do I depend on God to keep me surefooted? Do I state my case before God or go days without crying out to God? Is God alone my expectation and hope?

3. What characteristics, attributes or names of God are mentioned?

Here is where you can highlight or underline them in your bible. God is salvation, is a rock, a defense, our glory and rock of strength, He is a refuge. God is mercy and hope.

4. Proclaim to God in prayer each characteristic, attribute or name of God.

From You alone, oh God, comes my salvation! You are my rock and salvation, my defense (strong tower), You alone are my hope and I will wait on You always. You are my defense and my glory. I pour my heart out to you alone oh God for the power belongs to You.

5. What spoke the most to me about myself?

My need to silently and patiently wait for God to move.

6. What spoke the most to me about God?

He is my glory. Wow, He is my glory!

“Our ordinary views of prayer are not found in the New Testament.
We look upon prayer as a means for getting something for ourselves;
the Bible idea of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself.” **Oswald Chambers**

These simple steps will grow you in the knowledge of your God and will produce in you a devotion to prayer.

2. Study the prayers of the bible. In fact, I encourage you to look up “All the prayers of the Bible” by Herbert Lockyer’s table of contents.
3. Pour over your Bible until you are given scriptures to pray. Praying scripture gives you assurance in God and assurance that you are praying in the right way.

I am going to give you a few scriptures you can pray for those you love and for yourself:

Ephesians 1:17-21

¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He

raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Ezekiel 36:25-27

²⁵ Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.

Psalms 91:11

For He shall give His angels charge over you,
To keep you in all your ways.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O man, what *is* good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justly,
To love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God?

Jeremiah 15:16

Your words were found, and I ate them,
And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart;
For I am called by Your name,
O Lord God of hosts.

Isaiah 61:2-3

To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,
³ To [a]console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they may be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”

To Sum this series up:

As we looked at Colossians 4:2 AMP; the them verse for this series:

² Be earnest *and* unwearied *and* steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both] alert *and* intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving.

Remember: to devote yourselves to prayer because prayer is a privilege. Privilege is defined as a right, granted as a particular benefit, advantage, or favor.

It is a place where His presence is pondered
It is a place where praise is poured forth.
It is a place where we take our proper post
It is a place of power

“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.” Samuel Chadwick

Remember: do not grow weary in the waiting. Do not grow weary of unanswered prayer.

E.M. Bounds

It is hard to wait and press and pray, and hear no voice, but stay till God answers.

“The devil is aware that one hour of close fellowship, hearty converse with God in prayer, is able to pull down what he hath been contriving and building many a year.” **John Flavel**

Psalm 40:1

I waited patiently for the Lord and he inclined unto me and heard my cry.

Remember: “Prayers outlive the lives of those who uttered them” E.M. Bounds

Spurgeon on prayer:

If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and unprayed for.

Words beginning with the letter D

Desire to pray more

Decide to do something about your prayer life

Determine to develop your knowledge of the Holy One

Discipline yourself to pray

Daily abide, wait in His presence and pray

Be Devoted to prayer.

Ladies, make prayer and communion with God your aim, your goal, your passion, and your love because when you do; you will be known as a woman ***Devoted to Prayer***.