

“Paul’s Powerful Prayer”

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Colossians 1:9-14

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Introduction:

A. A Prayer:

I said a prayer for you today and know God must have heard.
I felt the answer in my heart, although He spoke no word.
I didn’t ask for wealth or fame (I knew you wouldn’t mind)
I asked Him to send treasures of a far more lasting kind.
I asked that He’d be near you at the start of each new day.
To grant you health and blessings and friends to share your way.
I asked for happiness for you in all things great and small.
But it was for His loving care, I prayed the most of all.

I. Paul Prayed for Their _____

- A. A key word is “_____.”
B. In the New Testament, the word “filled” also means to be “_____.”
C. It’s one thing to have _____, but it is far better to _____ what that knowledge means, and to have the _____ to know how to use that knowledge.
D. Possessing spiritual intelligence is the beginning of a _____ and _____ Christian life.
E. Spiritual ignorance is not a _____, nor should we be _____ to remain spiritually ignorant.

II. Paul Prayed for Their _____

- A. If Satan can’t stop us from growing in spiritual intelligence, then he will try to stop us from _____ what we know into _____. (James 1:22)
B. True spiritual understanding _____ to practical obedience.
C. What we often need isn’t more or deeper truth, but _____ to the _____ we already know. (Phil. 3:16)
D. Our _____ should be worthy of the Lord and pleasing to Him.
E. A life that is worthy and pleasing to God is one where we _____ in every good _____. (Jn. 15:5, 8)
F. The New Testament mentions two specific kinds of fruit for the Christian.
1. The spiritual _____ called the fruit of the _____ (Gal. 5:22).
2. The _____ of the _____ is a kind of fruit (Jn. 4:36).

III. Paul Prayed for Their _____

- A. Christianity is not a “do-it-_____” religion, it is a “do-it-by-_____” religion. (Phil. 4:13; Col. 1:29)
B. How amazing that we can pray to be strengthened with all power according to God’s _____.
C. Paul prayed that God’s power would give the Colossians four things:
1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Conclusion: Let’s devote ourselves to praying for spiritual _____, practical _____, and God-given _____.

Answer Key: I. Spiritual, Intelligence. I.A. fill. I.B. controlled, by. I.C. knowledge, understand, wisdom. I.D. successful, fruitful. I.E. virtue, satisfied. II. Practical, Obedience. II.A. putting, practice. II.B. should, lead. II.C. obedience, truth. II.D. walk. II.E. bear, fruit, work. II.F.1. virtues, Spirit. II.F.2. saving, lost. III. God-given, Power. III.A. yourself, God’s, power. III.B. glorious, might. III.C.1. Endurance. III.C.2. Patience. III.C.3. Joy. III.C.4. Thankfulness.
Concl: intelligence, obedience, power.