

Saint Paul's Baptist Church

Weekday Study Notes

W E L C O M E T O S A I N T P A U L ' S

Saint Paul's Baptist Church exists to empower people to grow into all that God created them to be. We do that by finding needs and meeting them, finding problems, and solving them, finding hurts and healing them.

GET CONNECTED

God created us for community. To volunteer, participate in a small group, or would get more information about upcoming events, visit myspbc.org or download our free mobile app at myspbc.info/app.

NEED PRAYER?

We are honored to pray with you or for you. Join us during or after worship services for personal prayer at myspbc.info/prayerroom. You may also submit a prayer request anytime at myspbc.org/prayer.

JESUS IS GREATER: A STUDY IN COLOSSIANS

Today's Lesson: The Prayers for the Church

Colossians 1:9-14: New International Version

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,^[e] ¹⁰ so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,¹² and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you^[f] to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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Syncretism: The combining of various teachings from different religions to come up with something new. Blending Greek philosophy, cultic practices, Christianity, and Jewish speculations to offer a "fuller" type of spiritual experience.

Gnosticism: The very word for Gnosticism comes from the Greek word gnosis, which means "to know." The Gnostics, "people in the know," the spiritual elite with all the answers, held as their basic doctrine that matter (anything physical or created) was evil and that only the spirit was good.

1. **A PRAYER FOR _____ (v.9)**
(*Philippians 1:9, Philemon 6, Ephesians 1:7, John 16:8-11, John 17:3, Psalm 1:1, 2, Joshua 1:8.*)

2. **A PRAYER ABOUT _____ (vv. 10-14)**
(*Colossians 1:10, Colossians 2:6, Colossians 3:7*)

a. **A _____ WALK**

b. **A _____ WALK**

c. **A _____ WALK**
(*Proverbs 25:28, 2 Corinthians 6:4-6, 2 Samuel 16:5-13, Proverbs 16:32*)

d. **A _____ WALK**
(*2 Corinthians 4:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:5, 1 Peter 2:9, 1 Corinthians 15:24*)

Discussion Guide:

Icebreaker: What characteristics attract you to other people? Consider the members of your small group, what have you heard from them that attracts you to them?

Talk It Over:

1. Paul hadn't met these believers, yet he is attracted to them. Why? What qualities of this church would attract you the most?

2. If faith, hope, and love are the fruit of the gospel (vv.5-6), then what does this fruit look like? Feel like?

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3. What does it mean to tell the whole truth about God's grace (v.6)? Conversely, how does one betray grace? What truth about grace do you see in verses 12-14?
4. How does what Paul prays for them? (vv.9-12) compare with what he thanks God for?
5. How does your intercessory prayer compare with Paul's: (a) In intensity? (b) In thankfulness? (c) In clarity? (d) In faithfulness?
6. How is the fruit of faith, love, and hope growing in your life: Developing well? Suffering from drought? Destroyed by the last storm? Budding? How will you help this "crop" develop?