Colossians is a letter from the Apostle Paul and his disciple Timothy to the church located at Colosse (modern Turkey). It was also directed that this letter be read to and from the nearby church of Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). Paul opened last week being grateful for the faith, hope, and love this church possessed and the internal growth that was taking place in them. Today, Paul expresses his desire for them to grow to know and do God's will \_\_\_\_\_ so they can walk worthy of the Lord and please Him (1 Thess. 4:1).

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NOWING GOD'S WILL AND PLEASING HIM – Colossians 1:9-11
Knowing God's Will – v. 9; 4:12
- God's will can be learned, applied, and truly v. 9; Pr. 4:1-7; Eph. 1:9; Rom. 12:1-2.
- God's will is generally the for every person – Rom. 8:29-30; Jn. 17:20-24.
- Seven specific things God wills (desires) for each follower of Jesus Christ:
That I would be when necessary (2 Pet. 3:9) =
That I would be for God (1 Thess. 4:3-4) =
That I would not waste (Eph. 5:15-17) =
That I would obey in my life (1 Pet. 2:13-15) =
That I would be (1 Thess. 5:18) =
That I would do things with pure (Eph. 6:5-8) =
That my thinking would not be this thinking (Rom. 12:2) =
Living to Please Him – v. 10-11
- We were created and born again to do God's will and Him - v. 10a; Php. 2:13; Rev. 4:11
<ul> <li>Seeking to please God by doing His will brings fruitfulness to our work in life and increases our knowledge and understanding of Him – v. 10b; Php. 3:9-10.</li> </ul>
- God our strength according to His might so we can do His will – v. 11; Matt. 11:29-30.