

Devotional Paul's Prayer

Colossians 1: 9-12

Paul prayed for the Colossians – matter of fact, he wrote to say that since the day he's heard about them, he had not stopped praying. What was he praying about? What exactly did he pray? We can draw a lesson here from the great Apostle.

I believe he prayed for four things:

1. Paul prayed that they would know and do the Will of God

Now how important is that? Can you think of anything more important? It is imperative for Christians to live a life that fulfills the purposes and destinies of God. We were not saved to be self-serving. We were saved to serve the living God, to be steward of God in this life.

Anything less than “walking in the will of God” would tantamount to a walk of disobedience. Obedience is key to living the will of God. Paul wrote of the Romans in 16:19, “*everyone has heard about your obedience.*” Obedience is the badge of a close purposeful walk with God.

2. Next He prayed for success in their lives

“*Bearing fruit in every good work*” God's plan has always been to prosper His people. He said in Jeremiah 29:11, “*For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*”

I don't care about the prosperity crap but one thing I do know God wants us to serve Him out of our abundance. If we are broken, how can we help those who need healing and wholeness? If we are unforgiving, how can we help those who need forgiving? We cannot give if we do not have. We cannot offer anything if we have nothing to offer. It is grand illusion to think that if we have nothing to offer that we have something great to offer!

He said in 3 John 2, “*Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.*”

I believe God wants us to succeed so we serve Him out of our well being. I am praying for believers to be well in body, mind and spirit and to catch the vision of winning the world for Jesus. Paul obviously wanted the Colossians to do well.

3. Next he prayed for power in their lives

“*Being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might.*” God wants us to live empowered lives. Power is in the connectivity with the Holy Spirit. It's like a vacuum cleaner – if it is not plugged in, it is useless! The vacuum cleaner is

dependent on another power source. So it is with us. The Holy Spirit indwells in us to empower us. His gifting and spiritual manifestations are to allow us to demonstrate and participate in his divine power. It is power to live, forgive, love, be an example for the believers, be a witness for Jesus and to walk victoriously over sin, bondage and oppressions.

You and I need to plug in to the power source – the Holy Spirit. We need to walk supernaturally natural and naturally supernatural. “God with us, reveals in us” the song says. An abiding power and presence of God in our every day life.

4. Finally Paul prayed for them to have a right attitude

“*Giving thanks to the Father.*” Joy and gratefulness is an attitude. It will affect every other area of our life and the life of everyone you come into contact with!

Joy and thankfulness are arming attitude. They protect us. They allow us to receive the supernatural intervention of God’s hands in our lives. They change us from the inside. What is internal is permanent. What is external is temporal. God wants an internal change so that we filter our worldview of what’s out there.

So we longer allow circumstances to dictate to us but instead we dictate circumstances. Joy allows us to do.

Gratefulness is a great healing balm. God loves people who are grateful and thankful. Remember the 10 lepers in Luke 17. How many came back to say “thank you” to Jesus? Jesus asked, “*where are the rest?*” How many were made well? To the one who was grateful, He said, “*rise and go, your FAITH has made you well*”.

Thankfulness has a twin’s relationship with Faith. People of faith are people who are thankful.

Conclusion

So there are some things for you to pray about today!

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