

Prayers of Scripture
Praying with Spiritual Priorities – Pt. 2

Paul's Example:

Paul's Requests:

1. Pray for an increasing knowledge of our God (Ephesians 1:15-23)

*"Knowing about God is crucially important for the living of our lives. As it would be cruel to an Amazonian tribesman to fly him to London, put him down without explanation in Trafalgar Square and leave him, as one who knew nothing of English or England, to fend for himself, so we are cruel to ourselves if we try to live in this world without knowing about the God whose world it is and who runs it. The world becomes a strange, mad, painful place, and life in it a disappointing and unpleasant business, for those who do not know about God. Disregard the study of God, and you sentence yourself to stumble and blunder through life blindfolded, as it were, with no sense of direction and no understanding of what surrounds you. This way you can waste your life and lose your soul."*¹

2. Pray for a growing godliness in our conduct (Colossians 1:9-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

¹ Knowing God by J. I. Packer

3. Pray for the continuing advance of our gospel

- Pray for Opportunities for Gospel Proclamation (Col 4:2-3)

*"In prayer, then (and the Christian is at his sanest and wisest when he prays), you know that it is God who saves men; you know that what makes men turn to God is God's own gracious work of drawing them to himself; and the content of your prayers is determined by this knowledge. Thus, by your practice of intercession, no less than by giving thanks for your conversion, you acknowledge and confess the sovereignty of God's grace."*²

- Pray for Boldness and Clarity in Gospel Proclamation (Col 4:2-4; Eph 6:18)
- Pray for the Outcomes of Gospel Proclamation (2 Thess 3:1)
- Pray for the Protection of Gospel Messengers (2 Thess 3:2)
- Pray for the Increase of Gospel Heralds (Matt 9)
- Pray for the Salvation of Gospel Hearers (Rom 10:1)

² J. I. Packer, *Evangelism & the Sovereignty of God* (Inter-Varsity Fellowship, 1991)., pp. 15-16.