

Do We Pray Like Paul?

*What Can We
Learn From The
Prayers of Paul?*



Do We Pray Like Paul?

- In most of Paul's letters, he includes a prayer for his readers.
- Paul's prayers are touching, profound, eloquent, & loving; . . . they are Instructional, inspirational, & powerful.



Do We Pray Like Paul?

- Paul's heart was fixed on the essential things, things true, important & indispensable.
- Paul's prayers, then, become a mirror in which we can examine ourselves. - - - Are we concerned about the same things as Paul?



Ephesians 1:15-21 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,



Ephesians 1:15-21 (NKJV)

¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power



Ephesians 1:15-21 (NKJV)

²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.



Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Increased Knowledge & Understanding



➤ **OF THE LORD -**

Eph. 1:17; Col. 9-10; Acts 17:23

➤ **OF THE HOPE OF HIS CALLING**

- Ep 1:18; Tit 2:13; 3:7; 1 Pt 1:3; 1 Jn 3:3

➤ **OF THE RICHES HE GIVES -**

Eph. 1:18; cf. 1:3-14; Phile. 1:6;

➤ **OF HIS POWER -**

Eph. 1:18-19; cf 6:10-18

➤ **Of HIS WILL -** Phil. 1:9-10; Col. 1:9

➤ **OF HIS LOVE -** Eph. 3:17b-19

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Increased Knowledge & Understanding

*Our faith, hope, love,
strength & obedience will
never rise above our
knowledge & understanding
of God, what He has done for
us, & what His will is for us!*

Rom 10:17; 2 Pet 3:17,18



Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Godly, Holy Living

Colossians 1:10 (NKJV)

that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

- 2 Corinthians 13:7,9 (NKJV) - 7 “Now I pray to God **that you do no evil, . . . that you should do what is honorable,**” . . . 9 “ . . . we pray, **that you may be made complete.**”
- Phil. 1:9-11 "And this I pray..that you may **approve the things that are excellent,** in order to **be sincere and blameless** until the day of Christ."
- 1 Thes. 3:12-13 "... so that He may establish your hearts **unblamable in holiness**"

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Godly, Holy Living

*Without holiness - we will
not see the Lord! We Must
keep ourselves “unspotted”
from the world - being
obedient in all things.*

*Heb 12:14; 2 Cor 6:14-7:1; 1 John
2:15-17; James 1:27; 1 Pet 1:13-16*

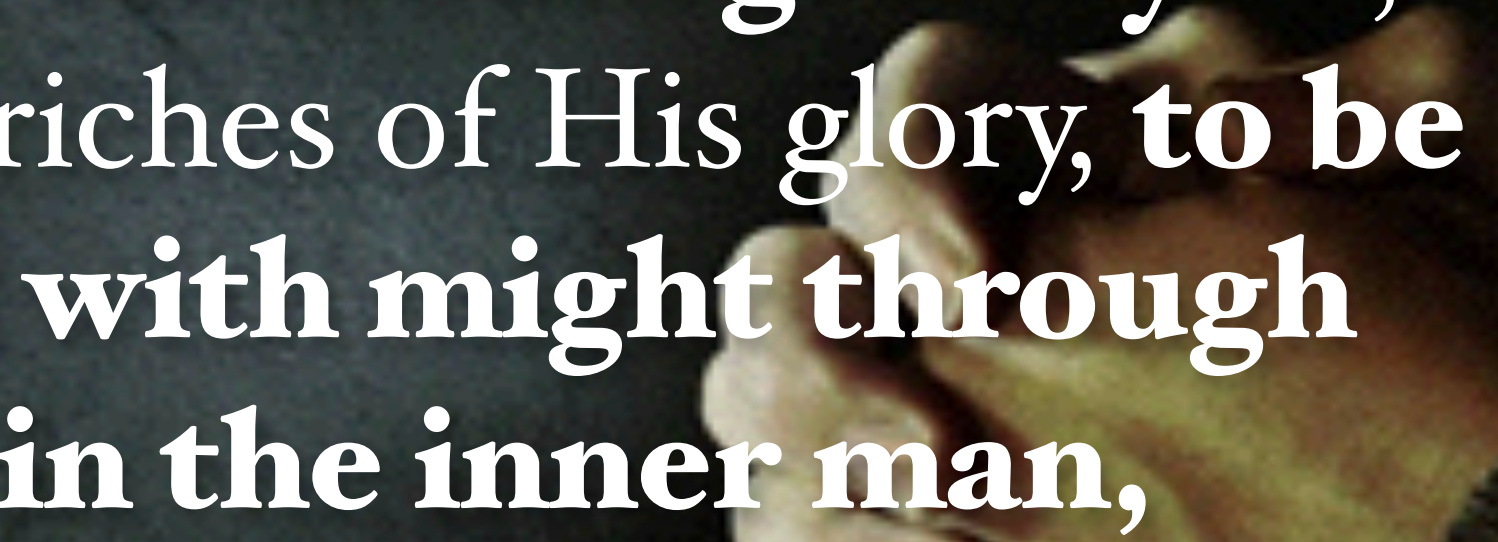


Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Strength - For Ourselves & Others

Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father . . . ¹⁶ that **He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,**



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For Strength - For Ourselves & Others

Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)

to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man

- ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;
- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge;
- that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Strength - For Ourselves & Others

Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)

to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man

- Colossians 1:11 (NKJV) - ^{II} strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;
- 1 Thes. 3:13 "... so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God...."
- 2 Thes. 2:16 "... in every good work and word."

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For Strength - For Ourselves & Others

Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)

to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man

- Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
- 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV) ⁹ “And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Strength - For Ourselves & Others

*Without God's strength we are
helpless - but with the strength
God provides through faith - we
can overcome & fulfill His will
for us, That we may receive all
that God desires to give us!*

Heb 5:8.9; 1 Cor 10:13; Eph 6:10-18



Do We Pray Like Paul?

For More Love & Unity

Philippians 1:9 (NKJV)

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

- 1 Thes. 3:12 "...and may the Lord cause you to **increase and abound in love for one another**, and for all men, just as we also do for you."
- 2 Thessalonians 3:5 (NKJV) "Now may the Lord direct your hearts into **the love of God and into the patience of Christ**."
- Romans 15:5–6 (NKJV) - 5 Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be **like-minded toward one another**, according to Christ Jesus, 6 that you may with **one mind and one mouth glorify the God** and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For More Love & Unity

Philippians 1:9 (NKJV)

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

- 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **you all speak the same thing**, and that there be **no divisions among you**, but that you be **perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment**.” - (cf. John 17:20,21)
- Philippians 2:2-4 (NKJV) ² “fulfill my joy by being **like-minded**, having the **same love**, being of **one accord**, of **one mind** . . .” (3:16)
- Ephesians 4:1-6 (NKJV) - ³ “ . . . endeavoring to keep the **unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace** . . .”

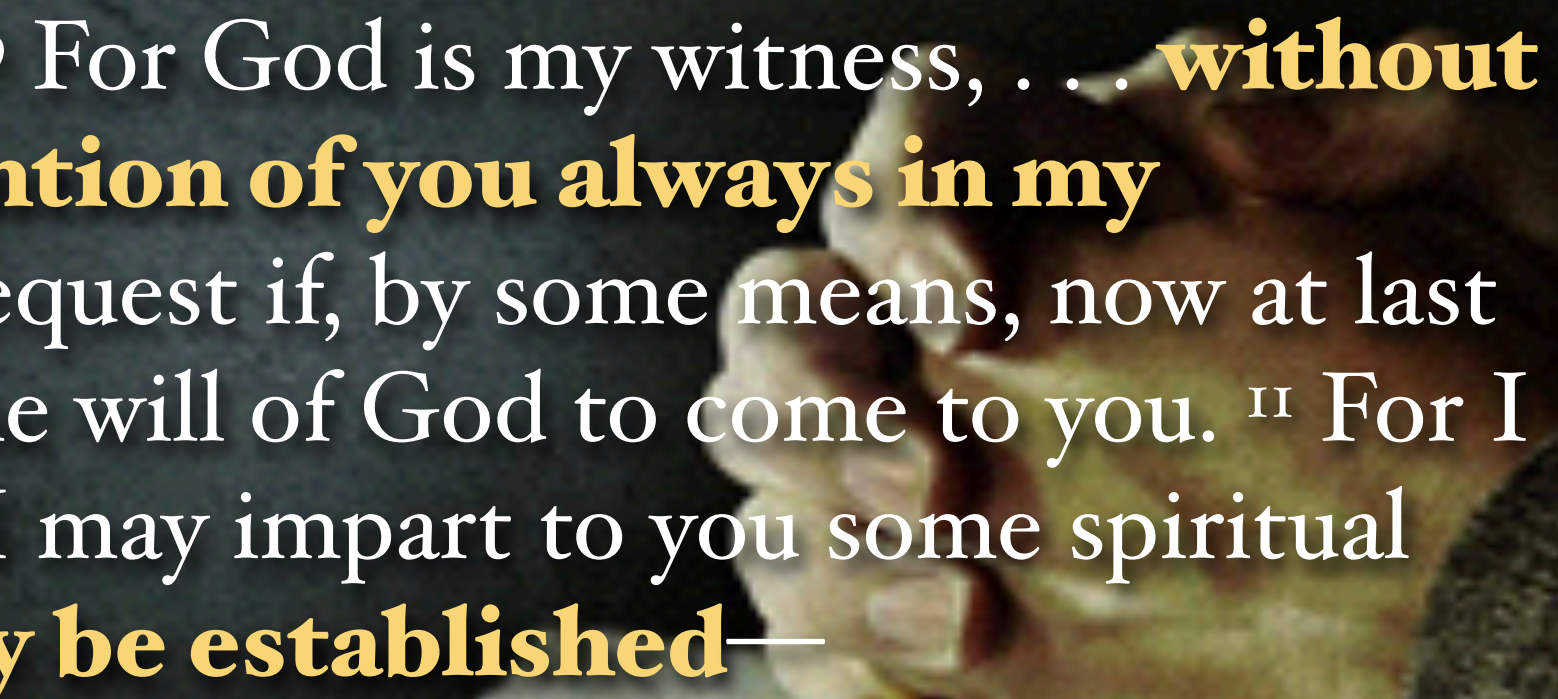
Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Opportunities To Encourage The Brethren

I Thessalonians 3:10

¹⁰ night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

➤ Rom 1:9–11 (NKJV) 9 For God is my witness, . . . **without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,** ¹⁰ making request if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you. ¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, **so that you may be established—**



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For Opportunities To Encourage The Brethren

I Thessalonians 3:10

¹⁰ night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

➤ Romans 15:30–32 (NKJV) ³⁰ Now I beg you, brethren, . . . that you **strive together with me in prayers to God for me**, ³¹ that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and **that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints**, ³² **that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you.**

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For Opportunities To Spread The Gospel

Colossians 4:3 (NKJV)

³ meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,

- 2 Thessalonians 3:1 (NKJV) ¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us, **that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified**, just as *it is* with you,
- Ephesians 6:19 (NKJV) - ¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that **I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel**,
- Philemon 6 (NKJV) ⁶ that **the sharing of your faith may become effective . . .**

Do We Pray Like Paul?

For The Salvation of Those Who Are Lost

Romans 10:1 (NKJV)

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.” (cf. 9:1-3)

➤ 1 Corinthians 9:20-23 (NKJV) ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹ to those who are without law, as without law . . . I have become all things to all men, **that I might by all means save some**. ²³ Now this I do for the gospel’s sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

Do We Pray Like Paul?

- Paul's heart was fixed on the essential things, things true, important and indispensable.
- Are we primarily concerned with the same issues that concerned Paul?
 - * Our knowledge, wisdom, understanding, holiness, obedience, endurance, joy, opportunities, salvation of those who are lost?



Do We Pray Like Paul?

- If you are a Christian & you realize you need to make changes in your life - your priorities are not where they should be - do whatever you need to do today!
- If You are not a Christian, our prayer is that today you will obey the gospel - Acts 22:16



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Ephesians 3:14-21 (NKJV)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,



Ephesians 3:14-21 (NKJV)

¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.



Ephesians 3:14-21 (NKJV)

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

