

DRAWNEAR

#8 - Mature Praying ... for Others

THE PRAYERS OF PAUL

- They are the prayers of an extremely mature believer—an apostle, church planter, pastor, and NT author.
- Although they are offered on behalf of congregations as a whole, they can certainly be prayed for individuals as well.
- They appear more like **passionate outbursts** than neatly outlined templates for praying.
- They are responses to what has been reported.
- They are intensely spiritual, usually calling for God to increase the **faith, hope, or love** of a congregation, whatever he viewed as being deficient.
- They are always drenched in **gospel truth**.
- Their structure is more flowing than linear, often cascading like a waterfall.
- They have God's glory and pleasure as their ultimate end.

MATURE PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Phil. 1:9 *And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

Primary Petition: **OVERFLOWING, DISCERNING LOVE**

Praying it: "Father, produce in them an increasing love for the most excellent things, for your glory."

Col. 1:9 *And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

Primary Petition: **CONSUMING KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WILL**

Praying it: "Father, cause them to be consumed with what YOU want so that their life will please you fully."

Eph. 1:16 *I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe...*

Primary Petition: **SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENMENT**

Praying it: "Father, open their eyes to all that You have done for them in Christ."

Eph. 3:14 *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Primary Petition: **INNER STRENGTH**

Praying it: "Father, through Your Holy Spirit grant them the spiritual fortitude they need to live in light of Your great love for them."

MATURE PRAYING FOR UNBELIEVERS

Rom. 10:1 *Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.*

BIBLE READING PLAN

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Exodus 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday: Exodus 26 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday: Exodus 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday: Exodus 27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday: Exodus 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday: Exodus 28 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday: Exodus 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday: Exodus 29 |

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