

Chapter 6 - The Content of a Challenging Prayer

Colossians 1:3–20

Lessons from the Setting of the Prayer

1. Paul prays for _____
2. Paul prays _____
3. Paul links prayers of _____ to prayers of _____.

Lessons from the Content of the Prayer (1:9-14)

Now we must ask, what are the things that he constantly prays for the Colossians?

1. Paul asks God to _____ with the _____ of _____
 - Consider Psalm 143:10 - "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground."
2. The purpose of Paul's petition is that believers might be _____
_____.

3. Paul sketches, in terms of four characteristics, what a _____ looks like.

- Christians _____ in every _____.
- Eph 2:10 - "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
- John 15:1-8 - *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love."*
- Christians _____ in the _____.
- Christians are _____ so as to display _____ and _____.
- Christians joyfully _____.