

# Praying Like Paul

## Questions For Week #4

1. One goal of the business of prayer seems to be that your life will become more and more “worthy of the Lord.” In light of this goal, share some specific things in your life you should be regularly taking to God in prayer.
2. When Paul prays that his fellow believers live “a life pleasing to the Lord” (Col 1), what four characteristics does this involve?
3. Explain what it means for God to fill believers with “the knowledge of his will” (Col 1:9).
4. In Col 1:3-7 what works of grace in the lives of others move Paul to thankfulness? List here some works of the Spirit you have seen in members of your community group that might move your heart to prayerful thanksgiving.
5. Which of the common excuses for not praying discussed in Chapter 7 do you use most often? What advice did you receive in the reading to help you move past this excuse and begin to treasure Christ regularly through prayer?
6. One central tenant of the gospel is that God accepts his people *only* on the basis of Christ’s perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection. How may this aspect of the gospel help us when we feel too spiritually dry to pray? How about when we feel too ashamed over our sin to pray?
7. Meditate well on Matt 6:14-15 and Mark 11:25. Ask God to reveal and kill any bitterness that may linger in your heart toward one who has mistreated you. As you strive to forgive this person, commit to pray regularly for them.