

June 20/21, 2026
"Paul's Prayer"
Pastor Aaron Buer



SPEND DAILY TIME WITH GOD AS YOU READ, THINK, PRAY, + ACT.

2026 Focus: 12 Months of Prayer | **June:** Being Still Before God

Each month, journey through a different biblical model of prayer.

Day 1 [Colossians 1:1-14](#) | Bearing Fruit

We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work. Colossians 1:9b-10a

Paul writes to a church he has never visited. Epaphras, one of the Colossians' own, traveled to Paul with an update on the young congregation ([Colossians 1:7-8](#)). The Colossian church faces cultural pressure to add to Jesus, to blend him with other philosophies and religious practices. Paul responds not with argument alone but starts with prayer. He tells them he has not stopped praying for them, asking God that they would live a life worthy of Jesus and please him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work.

Praying for a worthy life is something we can do for the people we love, too. Like a healthy tree loaded with fruit, a healthy faith produces fruit. In another letter, Paul names what that fruit is: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)). Fruit is character shaped by the Holy Spirit that grows us to look more like Jesus. A fruitful life nourishes others and is not just for our benefit alone. It impacts marriages, friendships, workplaces, and neighborhoods for the sake of the gospel and God's glory. This is the kind of life that honors God's name and pleases him.

PRAYER DAY #43: Think of one person you love and want to see live a worthy life—a friend, family member, small group member, coworker, or neighbor. Pray this prayer for them: "Father, grow your character in _____. May they live a worthy life that pleases you, bearing fruit in every good work."

How have you been growing in prayer throughout this 50 Days of Prayer challenge? We would love to hear. Please share a sentence or two with us [HERE](#).

Day 2 [Colossians 1:9-10](#) | Growing in Knowledge

So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God. Colossians 1:10

Paul prays for the believers in Colossae to grow in the knowledge of God. The word he uses carries the idea of full, thorough, and experiential knowledge that changes a person from the inside out. Paul reaches for this same word in his prayers for believers in Ephesus and Philippi, too ([Ephesians 1:17](#), [Philippians 1:9](#)). His purpose is clear. He desires to see believers transformed, not merely informed. God's Word is the source of transforming knowledge that grows a worthy life. God makes himself known through his living, active Word

that shapes his people. This is what Paul prays for the Colossians: that they would know God fully, deeply, and personally, resulting in worthy lives that please him.

This kind of deep, transforming knowledge is available to us, too. God gave his Word so we can know him, not just know *about* him. The more we organize our lives around Scripture, the more God shapes us through it. As we read, study, memorize, discuss with other believers, and gather to hear Scripture taught on weekends, our knowledge of and love for God deepens. God's Word isn't a box to check. It's how we come to know him more fully and how he changes us in the process.

PRAYER DAY #44: Pray for yourself and the people you love to grow in knowledge of God by making his Word a priority. Ask him to show you where you need to change to make room for his Word. "Father, please grant me and _____ a lifelong desire to know you, making your Word central in our lives."

Join us for **PRAYER AND WORSHIP NIGHT** happening this Thursday, June 25, at 6:30 pm at our [East Paris](#) and [Knapp](#) Campuses. We will spend time praying and praising God together.

Day 3 [Colossians 1:9-11](#) | Being Strengthened

Being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience. Colossians 1:11

Paul writes these words from prison. He knows firsthand what it means to endure unwanted, difficult, and painful circumstances. He also understands the need for patience with difficult people who have wrongly accused him. So, when he prays for the believers in Colossae to be strengthened with all power, he's not offering empty encouragement. He is praying from experience of having received the strength to endure and exercise patience. He prays for God-sized strength—power according to his glorious might. The kind of power that created the universe and raised Jesus from the dead. Paul knows the Colossians cannot manufacture it from within themselves. Living a worthy life includes being strengthened with power from God himself.

We can pray for that same power for ourselves and the people we love. Difficult circumstances and people often expose how little power we have on our own. Lengthy seasons of unemployment. A struggling marriage. A health diagnosis that changes everything. The ache of desire to be married. Caring for an aging parent or a wayward child. In those moments, the answer is not to dig deeper or try harder. The answer is to remain in Christ—to stay connected to the Vine and draw on his strength, not our own ([John 15:5](#)). Being strengthened by his power is how we live worthy in the long, difficult seasons. We need God-sized power.

PRAYER DAY #45: Think of someone facing a difficult circumstance or relationship. Pray for them: "Father, strengthen _____ with your glorious might." Then send them a text to let them know you prayed for them today.

Learn more about Paul's prayer for the Colossians on this week's episode of the Beyond the Weekend podcast. Find it wherever you listen to podcasts or on YouTube [HERE](#).

Day 4 [Colossians 1:9-14](#) | Giving Joyful Thanks

And giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. Colossians 1:12

Paul prays for the Colossians to give joyful thanks, rooted in what God has done for them through Jesus. Paul understands the depth of this thanksgiving. He had previously hunted down Jesus's followers, dragging them off to prison, even consenting to their deaths ([Acts 8:3](#)). Then Jesus met him on a road outside Damascus, and everything changed ([Acts 9:3-20](#)). Paul has never gotten over what Jesus did for him. He knows he's done

nothing to deserve Jesus's rescue. God alone has qualified him, pulling him from darkness into light, giving him an inheritance he has no right to claim. That undeserved grace has fueled a lifetime of joyful thanks. He prays the same for the Colossians.

It can be easy for us to forget the depth of Jesus's rescue. Yet, a worthy life that pleases God includes giving thanks for our salvation. The word "qualified" is past tense. This is already done. We did not make ourselves worthy. Nothing we do today makes us more qualified. God qualified us through Jesus—forgiving us, making us holy, rescuing us from the dominion of darkness, and bringing us into the kingdom of his Son ([Colossians 1:13–14](#)). We simply receive what he has done in faith and respond with gratitude. Gratitude is not a feeling we work up. It grows naturally when we remember we have been rescued and what God has given us.

PRAYER DAY #46: Think of someone who needs to remember what Jesus has done for them. Pray for them: "Father, fill _____ with joyful, gospel gratitude because you have qualified them through Jesus."

If you haven't shared a story yet about how you have grown in prayer throughout this 50 Days of Prayer challenge, we would love to hear from you! Please share a sentence or two with us [HERE](#).



Day 5 [Acts 10:1–23](#) | Peter Receives a Vision

This year in Beyond the Weekend, journey through different biblical models of prayer—one each month. June's focus is being still before God.

About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. Acts 10:9

The early church is growing rapidly. Peter travels from city to city, healing the sick and proclaiming Jesus as Lord ([Acts 9:32–43](#)). But in the town of Joppa, something shifts. At noon, Peter prays alone on the rooftop. God interrupts his prayer with an extraordinary vision to eat animals considered unclean under Jewish law. Three times Peter resists, and three times God answers: "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean" ([Acts 10:15](#)). In the quiet before God, Peter receives a powerful revelation. God is throwing the door wide open, proclaiming that the gospel is for everyone, Jew and Gentile.

We will probably not receive a clear vision as Peter did. But God meets us in quiet, prayerful moments when we are still before him. He rarely shouts his biggest messages through the noise of a busy life. Most of us live with packed schedules, constant notifications, and a mile-long to-do list. It's easy to move through entire weeks without a few minutes alone with God. But the moments when God reshapes us and nudges us toward sharing who he is tend to come in the quiet. He will remind us of Scripture, help us understand who he is, and bring to mind people to share the gospel with.

PRAYER DAY #47: This week, we've been praying Paul's prayer that we would live worthy ([Colossians 1:9-14](#)). Today, be still before God. No distractions. Ask him to help you know him better and give you his love for all people to know the gospel. Throughout the day, be prayerful about who he might be nudging you to share him with.

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Day 6

PRAYER DAY #48: This week we prayed Paul's prayer in Colossians to live a worthy life, one that recognizes we've been brought from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light through God's Son ([Colossians 1:9-14](#)). Today, pray the Lord's Prayer in [Matthew 6:9-13](#). Focus on the kingdom language, praying that God's kingdom would come in and through your life and that you would live a worthy life through his Son. Then join Ada Bible Worship as they sing "[Goodness of God](#)." Thank him for his goodness in bringing you from darkness into his kingdom of light.

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Day 7

PRAYER DAY #49: Throughout these 50 Days of Prayer, we've grown together in prayer. We've used Hannah's example to bring our sorrow and deep emotions to God in lament, asking him to move and trusting his character ([1 Samuel 1:1-18](#)). We've prayed Jehoshaphat's prayer for when we feel overwhelmed: "We don't know what to do, but our eyes are on you" ([2 Chronicles 20:12](#)). We looked at Solomon's prayer of dedication and prayed with adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication ([1 Kings 8:22-51](#)). We followed Paul's prayer for overflowing, insightful, and reflective love ([Philippians 1:9-11](#)). We learned from Daniel's model of reading and responding to Scripture in prayer ([Daniel 9:1-19](#)). And we prayed Paul's prayer for a worthy life ([Colossians 1:9-14](#)). Pick one of these prayers to return to today, and pray it for our church. Pray we would continue to grow in prayer, impacting our families, friends, and community for the gospel.

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