

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Study Series: Life-Changing Prayers**  
**Part 4: 1 Thess. 3:9–13, 5:23–24, 2 Thess.1:11–12**

**Wednesday, January 25th, 2023**  
**Facilitator: Pastor Jide Lawore**

**Introduction**

Welcome to Part 4 (and the last) of the Life-Changing Prayers Bible Study Series. Let first summarize what we have covered so far in the first 3 parts:

1. Part 1 - Ephesians 1:17-21 focuses on the revelation knowledge of God and of everything available to us in Christ.
2. Part 2 - Ephesians 3:14-21 focuses on strengthening our inner man and knowing and experiencing the love of God.
3. Part 3 - Colossians 1:9–14, Philippians 1:3-6 and Philippians 1:9-11 focus on being filled with the knowledge of God’s will and abounding in love more and more in knowledge and all discernment.

Let’s summarize and personalize these prayers.

**Ephesians 1:17-21:** “.....that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to **me** the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of **my** understanding being enlightened; that **I** 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 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.”

**Ephesians 3:16-21** “... that He would grant **me**, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in **my** inner man, 17 that Christ may dwell in **my** hearts through faith; that **I**, 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 **I** may be filled with all the fullness of God. 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 **I**, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

**Colossians 1:9–14** “For this reason....pray....that **I** may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that **I** may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified **me** to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has delivered **me** from the power of darkness and conveyed **me** into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom **I** have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

**Philippians 1:6** I am “...confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in **me** will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;”

**Philippians 1:9-11** “And this I pray, that **my** love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 that **I** may approve the things that are excellent, that **I** may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”

Remember, what we said will be the result of praying and confessing these prayers. As you pray these prayers these two things will begin to happen.

- 1) The revelation of the truth in the prayers will begin to drop into your heart.
- 2) As a result of that revelation, your life begins to reflect the powerful intent of those prayers.

Today we will conclude our series by looking at a few Pauline prayers from 1 & 2 Thessalonians. While these are not very major prayers in term of how exhaustive they are, they are nonetheless powerful and can come in handy when added to a believer's prayer arsenal.

**1 Thessalonians 3:9–13** *“For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith? 11 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, 13 so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.*

***May the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all – love is a supernatural attribute that requires us to pray.***

- Why do you think many of the theme of Pauline prayer is above love?
- Why is it important to pray about loving God and loving others.

So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

- These prayer addresses holiness which a key expectation from God. Hebrews 12:14, 1 Peter 1:15-16

**1 Thessalonians 5:23–24** *“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.*

- This is a great prayer of sanctification for every believer:
- May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

**2 Thessalonians 1:11–12** *“Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, 12 that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*

***That God would count you worthy of this calling***

- The NLT put it as “to enable you to live a life worthy of his call.” This is powerful.

***That God will fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power.***

- The NLT put it as “May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do.” This is a powerful prayer.

That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

In conclusion, Pauline prayers are rich, powerful, exhaustive, and effectual. We can categorically say they are inspired by the Holy Spirit because “*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God*” (2 Timothy 3:16). Hence, they reflect what is in the heart of the Holy Spirit for us which should be our priority as we pray. This is what Paul said in Romans 8:27 “*And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.*” When we pray these prayers, we are using the language of the Holy Spirit and are bound to get tremendous result. May you experience God's best for you as you pray these prayers.