

# Walk Well My Brother

## April 15, 2018

### OPEN

What was the most challenging journey that you have had? What made it so challenging? What helped you persevere through that experience?

This April, from over a dozen examples of intercession we are looking at four of Paul's prayers in a series called, "**Presumptuous Prayers**".

Just as he did in his other prayers, Paul asked something significant of God on behalf of fellow believers. For the Christians in Colossae he based his prayer on a *presumption* and then asked God to bring *possibilities* into reality.

What was that exciting possibility for which Paul prayed? His prayer was for Christians to "walk worthy". This does not mean that believers must create "worthiness" to be accepted by God – that is not the Gospel of grace. Rather, having received Jesus as Saviour, Christians are called to walk or live a manner that reflects their new spiritual condition.

### DIG

In Colossians 1:3-12, what is immediately evident about Paul's prayer? Why is He so grateful? What does his thankfulness indicate about the way in which he trusts in God?

What did Paul learn about the Colossian believers from Epaphras (see Colossians 1:4-7 and 4:12)?

What is the hope which comes to the person who accepts the "word of truth" (verse 5)? When the Gospel takes root in a person's life, what are the results, according to verse 6?

What is Cornerstone's testimony of faith? What could be reported about our spiritual fruit?

What is the purpose of being filled with the knowledge of God's will as Paul outlined in verses 9-10?

- To walk worthy - a focus on godly \_\_\_\_\_
- To please God in all things – a focus on godly \_\_\_\_\_
- To bear fruit in all our works – a focus on godly \_\_\_\_\_
- To increase in God's knowledge - a focus on godly \_\_\_\_\_

*Everything you do, is done because of faith – faith in someone. Christians are not different because they live by faith. Christians are different because of the object of their faith.*

~ Paul Tripp

Check out Paul's upcoming interview [THE FAITH PLAYBOOK](#) about living by faith in Jesus with seven players from the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles.

Paul's second main request for the Colossians was that they would be strengthened by God? Consider the nature of God's power and energy which is available to the Christian – see verses 11-12.

- The source of strength is God's \_\_\_\_\_
- The standard of strength is God's \_\_\_\_\_
- The significance of strength is God's \_\_\_\_\_
- The celebration of strength is \_\_\_\_\_

Is God making the possible become a reality in your journey? Do you think that it is actually possible to live the Christian life in the way God intends?

*Jesus brought people that opening up of possibilities. In John 8, when he said to the woman caught in adultery, "Go and sin no more," I don't think she felt, I've got to do that. She experienced Jesus' words as **That's really possible. I can do that.**"*

~ Dallas Willard

### REFLECT

Jesus lovingly and loyally offers to live out His Resurrection life through us. Read and reflect on Galatians 2:20. How does Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection make it *possible* to live the way God intends for us.

Even with Jesus' resurrection life available to help us, what are some ways in which we become hindered from living the way God intends for us?

**You can read the other prayers of Paul in the following passages:**

- ➔ Romans 1:8-12; 15:5-6,13,33
- ➔ Ephesians 3:14-21
- ➔ II Thess 1:11-12; 2:16-17; 3:5
- ➔ Colossians 1:3-12
- ➔ I Corinthians 1:4-7
- ➔ I Thess 3:11-13; 5:23-24
- ➔ Philippians 1:3-11
- ➔ I Timothy 1:17; 6:15-16



For a stirring challenge to prayer listen to revivalist [Leonard Ravenhill](#)