

Paul's prayers

Romans 1:8-10 – *grateful to God for expansion of the kingdom through them*

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you 10 always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you.

Romans 15:5-6 – *that they live in such harmony that they might glorify God with one voice*

5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:13 – *that He would fill them with joy/peace in believing so they might abound in hope*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

1 Corinthians 1:4-9 – *grateful that God's given them knowledge, gifts & sustenance til Christ returns*

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Corinthians 13:7-9 – *that they would do no wrong that they would be restored*

7 But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. 8 For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. 9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for.

Ephesians 1:15-23 – *grateful for their faith & love; asking that He would increase their knowledge of Him, knowing their hope & the greatness of His power toward us.*

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that 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 rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 3:14-21 – *that they would be strengthened in their inner being so that Christ may live in their hearts through faith; that being rooted & grounded in love they might comprehend the love of Christ; that they might be filled with the fullness of God.*

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 6:19-20 – *asking for the right words, boldness viz. the gospel*

19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

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Philippians 1:9-11 – *praying that their love might abound more and more*

Love, knowledge, & discernment → approving what is excellent
approving what is excellent → being sincere & blameless
being sincere & blameless → fruit of righteousness
fruit of righteousness → the praise & glory of God

Colossians 1:3-14 – *grateful for their faith, love and hope; asking that they be filled with the knowledge of his will; that they walk worthy of their calling – pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God; that they be strengthened to endure, be joyfully patient, grateful for their inheritance, their delivery from Satan, their place in Jesus kingdom through whom they have redemption.*

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, 7 just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf 8 and has made known to us your love in the Spirit. 9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. 11 May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 4:2-4 – *be steadfast in prayer, watchful in it, with thanksgiving; pray that God may provide opportunities for the gospel, to speak it clearly.*

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 – *grateful for them: remembering their faith, love, steadfastness of hope in Christ*

2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 – *grateful for their responsiveness to the gospel; for their willingness to suffer for their faith*

13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. 14 For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind 16 by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved—so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 – *grateful for them; asking that they increasingly love one another so they will be blameless at the coming of Christ.*

9 For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, 10 as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith. 11 Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, 12 and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, 13 so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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1 Thessalonians 5:23, 24 – *that God would sanctify the completely, keeping them blameless – which he will do.*

3 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

2 Thessalonians 1:3, 11-12 - *grateful b/c of their growing faith & mutual love; asking that God would make them worthy of his calling so Jesus would be glorified.*

3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing...11 To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17 – *that Jesus would encourage their hearts & strengthen them in every good thing they do or say.*

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, 17 encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good thing you do or say.

2 Thessalonians 3:2–5 – *that he might be delivered from evil people; asking that God would guide their hearts to the love of God & steadfastness of Christ*

2 and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. 4 And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. 5 May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

2 Thessalonians 3:16 – *that God would give them peace & be with them*

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

2 Timothy 1:3–7 – *grateful to God as he prays for him; remembering his faith*

3 I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. 6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, 7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Philemon 4–7 – *grateful b/c of their love toward Christ & believers and their faith toward Christ; asking that the way they express their faith might increase their knowledge of all they have in Christ.*

4 I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, 5 because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, 6 and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. 7 For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

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A Summary

Grateful for...	Asking that...
<p>...their responsiveness to the gospel ...God expanding His kingdom through them ...God giving them knowledge, gifts and sustenance ...their faith, love & hope (x6) ...their willingness to suffer for their faith</p>	<p><u>Upward</u> ...they would be grateful for all they have in Christ ...they would be steadfast in prayer ...they would be filled with joy/peace <i>in their faith</i> (x2) ...they would comprehend the love of Christ (x2) ...they would be spiritually strengthened (x3)</p> <p><u>Inward</u> ...they would be unified ...they would have increasing knowledge of God (x4) ...they would love more and more (x2) ...they would be joyfully patient ...they would do no wrong & be restored ...they would walk worthy of their calling ...they would be completely sanctified (x2)</p> <p><u>Outward</u> ...God would provide opportunity, the right words & boldness with the gospel (x2)</p>