

# 5 THINGS TO PRAY

As part of this series looking at four of Paul's 'big prayers' for the church we want to be encouraging one another to be using these prayers as guides for our own.

You can do that entirely on your own by simply opening up the passage and praying from it, but if in order to help us do that we've created these sheets to split the passage into 5 things we can be praying [inspired by Good Book Company series!].

You could use this to pray for one thing each day or else you could pray for all 5 each day - or do something in between! You could do this individually, or perhaps together as a family (at a meal times, or bed time) - entirely up to you - the important thing is that we find some time to be praying these things for one another :)

## **Idea for Families**

Particularly for those with younger children, the sheet also includes a picture which may help those who are not yet able to read. Explaining the card and the picture will help them to remember what we're praying for.

To add an extra element of fun, why not cut the page into rows and fold the picture back against each prayer point. You could then ask each person in the family to pick one and pray for it.

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## PRAY IN LIGHT OF THE FUTURE

2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

### GIVE THANKS FOR SIGNS OF GOD'S GRACE

*We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. (v3)*

Think about specific brothers and sisters at Grace. How is God's grace at work growing their faith and love? Give thanks to God for the signs of his Grace.



### ...THAT ARE EVIDENCE OF GOD'S SALVATION

*All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering (v5)*

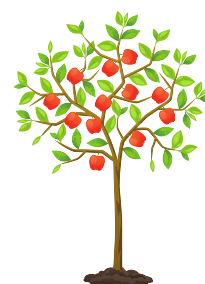
Give thanks that these signs of God's Grace reassure us that our brothers and sisters belong to God's Kingdom and have been saved.



### PRAY FOR GOD TO 'CLOSE THE GAP'

*...we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. (v11)*

Pray for your brothers and sisters at Grace that God's power would be making them increasingly more like Jesus in every area of their lives and that they'd know the joy of being fruitful in every desire for goodness and every action taken by faith.



### PRAY FOR JESUS TO BE GLORIFIED

*We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him (v12a)*

Pray that their fruitfulness would cause people to see Jesus' glory in them, and that they would increasingly experience the effect of Jesus' glory in transforming their lives.



### GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S GRACE

*...according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (v12b)*

Give thanks that our boldness to pray such ambitious prayers for one another is 100% dependent on God's grace to us in Jesus.

