

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.

5 THINGS TO PRAY

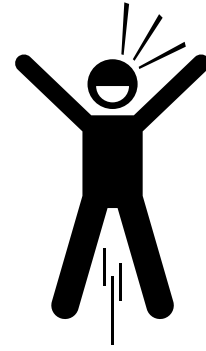
PRAY FOR KNOWLEDGE

Ephesians 1:15-23

GIVE THANKS FOR SIGNS OF GOD'S GRACE

...ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. (v15-16)

Paul doesn't stop giving thanks for signs of God's grace, let's continue to do that with each other and for other Christians we hear of from across the world.



TO KNOW HIM BETTER BY THE SPIRIT

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. (v17)

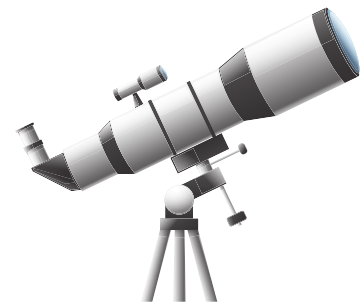
Pray that God would work by his Spirit to help us not just know *about* God, but know him personally more and more, being confident of what he is like and what he has done for us in Jesus.



TO KNOW HIS HOPE

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (v18)

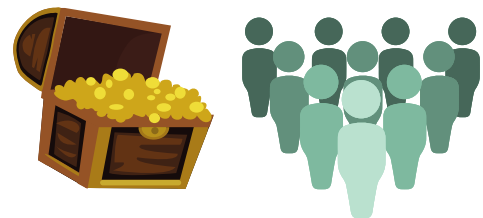
Pray that the Spirit would give our minds and hearts light to see and be assured of how certain our future hope in Christ is, because God is the one who has called us to it.



TO KNOW HIS RICHES

...the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people (v18)

Pray that the Spirit would help us increasingly understand how precious it is to belong to God's people because they are God's inheritance, his 'special possession' whom he loves because of Jesus' saving work at the cross.



TO KNOW HIS POWER

...his incomparably great power for us who believe. (v18-19)

Pray that the Spirit would help us to be increasingly convinced that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and seated him above everything is at work for us - that nothing can stop God's promises to us in Jesus.

