

## Colossians 1:9-14 | A Continual Prayer Participant Guide

### **Breaking the Ice**

1. It's been said before that every family has secrets...until a Kids Ministry volunteer asks a group of kids for their prayer requests. What are some of the most surprising, funny, or off-the-wall prayer requests you've heard?
2. Which best describes you when you pray:
  - a. Prayer ADHD ("Sorry God, where were we?")
  - b. 47 "Father God's"
  - c. Volume level 11 stomach growl during the quiet pause
  - d. The "peeker" (the one who opens their eyes and looks around the room when everyone else has their eyes closed)

### **Read + Observe**

Read through the scripture together to begin. (Colossians 1:9-14)

1. Which words were emphasized, repeated, or connected in this passage? What are 2-3 themes or key ideas that emerge? If you had to title this passage, what would you title it and why?
2. In Colossians 1:9, there is mention of a prayer for "God to fill you with the knowledge of his will." What are some ways you can pray for a "knowledge of God's will?" Read Ephesians 1:17, 1 Corinthians. 2:12 and Colossians 1:9-10 for a more comprehensive understanding of this.
3. In Colossians 1:11, Paul encourages the readers to be "strengthened with all power according to his glorious might." Read Psalm 86:16, Colossians 1:11, 29, Ephesians. 1:19, 3:16-21, 6:10 and Philippians. 4:13. How do these verses help you understand we should live according to God's strength instead of our own? How can you live in His strength?
4. Read through the passage (Colossians. 1:9-14) together and pay careful attention to all the statements about what you have available to you, "in Christ" (Colossians 1:2 – the prayer in Col. 1:9-14 is for the "brothers and sisters in Christ"). Make a list together and discuss what each of these things mean.

### **Apply: Bringing It Home**

1. What keeps you from praying? What are the reasons why it can become a “last resort” instead of a “first priority”?
2. How can a better “knowledge of God’s will” help you be fruitful as discussed in Colossians 1:10? What do you think God’s will is in one of the circumstances that you’re facing right now? How can knowing this help you to have a fruitful outcome in that particular situation?
3. How are you trying to live according to your own strength right now, instead of God’s? How can you live and walk according to God’s power right now?

### **Prayer**

1. Go back to the list you made together of the statements about what you have available to you “in Christ.” Spend time praying these statements over one another.
2. Was there a verse or phrase that particularly describes a need in your life right now? In what way? Share that with the group and spend time praying for one another.