

Date: August 31, 2025
Title: Praying for the Main Things!
Text: Philippians 1:9-11
Speaker: Fritz Good



Paul gives us a glimpse into this prayer life! What kinds of things did Paul pray for? How does this “match up” with what we usually pray for?

What are your *daily* prayer patterns?

- 1) List at least 3 things that you normally pray for every day.
- 2) What are 3 things that you think you should be praying for daily?

Verses 9–11 are Paul’s prayer on behalf of the church. These verses focus on the believers’ Christlike lifestyle, while verses 3–8 focus on their position in Christ.” Quote by: R. Ellsworth (2004), Opening Up Philippians.

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1:9-11 - ESV

- That your **love may abound** more and more (v. 9a)

Love is the evidence and sign of a true believer. Love would keep growing!

“We should be keenly aware of this danger. How often the church today has refused to stand against doctrinal error because someone argued that we must be loving! And, of course, love was understood to mean being agreeable and tolerant.” Quote by S. E. Runge (2011), High-Definition Commentary: Philippians

- With **knowledge and all discernment** (v. 9b)

NASB- real knowledge and all discernment
NRSV-knowledge and full insight
TEV-true knowledge and perfect judgment

“Paul prays that their love would abound, emphasizing still more and more. This assumes love is already present and focuses on its development. This love is grounded in knowledge and all discernment, not some warm, fuzzy feeling.” Quote by: S. E. Runge (2011), High-Definition Commentary: Philippians

➤ **That you may approve what is excellent (v. 10a)**

NASB, NKJV-the things that are excellent
TEV-what is best

“The word ‘approve’ means to ‘distinguish’. The idea of seeing through to the heart of a matter is involved. Paul is praying that his readers would be able, in the midst of competing issues and concerns, to see what is truly important and deserving of priority, and that they would be able to make wise spiritual decisions.” Quote by: R. Ellsworth, (2004), Opening Up Philippians.

➤ **And so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ (v. 10b)**

‘Pure’ (free from impurity) was the word merchants used to show that their pottery wasn’t cracked.

‘blameless’ (free of any trace of guilt).

Sincere without offense (not causing another to stumble).

Believers are to set a good example for other believers to follow, as well as being a positive witness (lifestyle and verbal) to unbelievers.

“Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.” 1 Corinthians 11:1

“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.” Galatians 6:1

➤ **filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ (v. 11a)**

Fruits of righteousness are the result of progressive sanctification. These fruits as stated in Galatians 5:22-23 are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self-control.

➤ **“to the glory and praise of God” (v.11b)**

Believers’ lives need to bring honor to God!