

SERMON NOTES FOR SUNDAY – APRIL 25, 2010
TRINITY LIFE CENTER – SACRAMENTO, CA
DR. GLEN D. COLE – SENIOR PASTOR

TITLE: “Man’s Lifeline to God”

TEXT: Colossians 1:9-14

INTRODUCTION: Paul was a man of prayer

- a.) His Christian life began in prayer – Acts 9:10-11
- b.) He prayed for himself – 2 Corinthians 12:7-9
- c.) He asked others to pray for him - Ephesians 6:18-20
- d.) He practiced the holy art of intercession – Colossians 1:3,9, and 12

I: THE CHARACTERISTICS OF PAUL’S PRAYER FOR HIS FRIENDS

- 1.) Marked by an urgent spirit (“desire” – v. 9)
 - a.) He knew something about unceasing prayer – I Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1
 - b.) Prayer is a warfare – Ephesians 6:12
 - c.) We need the grace of continuance – Acts 2:42; I Samuel 12:23 and Luke 18:3-5
- 2.) Marked by intensity
 - a.) Son of widow of Zaraphath – I Kings 17:17-24
 - b.) Bartimaeus cried out - Mark 10:46-52
 - c.) Woman with the issue of blood reached out – Mark 5:25-34
 - d.) “You will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart” Deuteronomy 4:29
- 3.) Marked by unity (“we...pray for you” – v. 9)
 - a) There is a special power in united, corporate prayer – Matthew 18:19; Acts 12:5

II: THE CONTENT OF PAUL’S PRAYER FOR HIS FRIENDS

- 1.) That they might be given perception (v. 9)
- 2.) That they might lead lives pleasing to the Lord (v. 10)
- 3.) That they might progress in the Christian life (v. 10)
Three stages in the Christian life (I John 2:12-14)
 - a) “Little children”
 - b) “Young men”
 - c) “Fathers”
- 4.) That they might be endued with power (v. 11)

5.) That they might have patience (v. 11)

CONCLUSION: The result of Paul's prayer was for them to count for God. Whether we are in the back row or the front row ... a long time Christian or just a week old in the faith ... "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).