

Praying for Spiritual Health in Others

I. Knowing God

- Knowledge of God

Ephesians 1:17 *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.*

- Know Him better
- Know His character, attitude, and action
- Knowledge of His will

Colossians 1:9 *For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.*

- His will
 - Being holy

1 Thessalonians 4:3a *It is God's will that you should be sanctified.*

- Giving thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:18 *give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

II. Loving Others

1 Thessalonians 3:12 *May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.*

Philippians 1:9 *And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more*

- This is the ultimate command of our Lord Jesus Christ
 - Love one another
 - This should be our character, works, attitude always
 - Why?
 - This is a command
 - It is the outflow of our born again heart
 - Action love

1 John 3:17-18

17 *If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? **18** Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*

- Knowledge of God and loving one another cannot be separate

III. Faithful Service

2 Thessalonians 1:11 *With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of His calling, and that by His power He may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith.*

Colossians 1:10 *And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,*

- God created us to do good works

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

2 Corinthians 9:8 *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

- What are the good works?
 - Kingdom work
 - Selfless service
 - Mercy
 - Sharing
 - Bearing other's burdens
 - Giving
 - listening

IV. Living Blameless

1 Thessalonians 3:13 *May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones.*

Philippians 1:10-11 *so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ-to the glory and praise of God.*

- Living a holy life
- Living such a life that others cannot accuse you of doing wrong

V. Sharing Faith

Philemon 6 *I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.*

- Pray that others share the gospel
- Pray for the boldness and clarity to share the good news
 - Even Paul asks others to pray of him in this area

Colossians 4:3-4 *And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.*