## **Faith Matters**

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# Daily Devotional, Monday, October 9, 2017 - Life Changing Prayer

OCTOBER 09TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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#### **Colossians 1:9-10**

Philippians 4:6 says that it's good to bring requests to the Lord, and we do often ask Him for certain blessings, desired outcomes, and healing for loved ones. But there are times when, in God's omniscience, He determines that a "no" would ultimately result in greater good.

So, what supplications can you be *sure* are in accordance with His will? Paul recorded specific petitions he made on behalf of the Colossians, and you can offer these life-changing prayers for people in your own life as well.

First, request that they "be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding" (Col. 1:9). In this way, you are asking God to give them direction and the ability to see life from His viewpoint.

Second, ask that they "will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord" (v. 10). The only way to succeed in this is through the control of the Holy Spirit—He fills hearts with a longing for God and creates the desire to please Him through obedience.

Third, pray that their life would count (v. 10). There is a difference between being busy and being fruitful. Many Christians assume that to have an impact for God, they must volunteer in numerous ministries at church or become a missionary or pastor. But the truth is, effectiveness in God's work depends on what He calls each person to do.

Too often, Christians pray for others only during hardships. But Paul continuously lifted up the Colossians to our Father (v. 9). As you mention others by name to the Lord, consider the areas that the apostle addressed.

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