

sermon notes

April 26, 2026 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | **Preeminence**
“The Effectual Fervent Prayer of a Righteous Man” | **Colossians 1:9–14**

1) The _____ of fervent prayer for a church (1:9a)

2) The _____ of fervent prayer for a church (1:9b–11)

a) Knowledge of God’s _____

b) A worthy _____

c) _____

d) Knowledge of _____

e) _____

3) The _____ of fervent prayer for a church (1:12)

4) The _____ of fervent prayer for a church (1:13–14)

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Colossians 1:9–14. How does this section of Scripture relate to the section that precedes it (i.e., Col 1:1–8)? Are there any repeated themes, ideas, or words in the two sections? If Paul had never visited this church (see Col 2:1), why is he praying for them so fervently?

Why is prayer important in a local church? In what ways is it important? How should fervency in prayer be demonstrated in the corporate life of the church? How should it be demonstrated in a believer’s personal life? Why should we pray specifically for the local church we are committed to? Should we also pray for the church universal around the world? If so, how?

What theological truths are emphasized in Colossians 1:13–14? What is the domain of darkness? What does it mean to have redemption? What does it mean to have our sins forgiven?

GET PERSONAL

Without self-loathing or feelings of guilt, do an honest assessment of your prayer life. Where are your strengths? Where are your weaknesses? What do you need to keep praying for? Where do you need greater constancy and fervency? How might you incorporate the help of others in your pursuit of constancy and fervency?

Paul prayed for the Colossians to have knowledge of God’s will, spiritual wisdom, a worthy walk, fruit-bearing, an increased knowledge of God, strength, endurance, and joy. How are you doing in these areas? Where do you desire growth?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Paul prayed big prayers for the church in Colossae. Do you think he prayed like this for all the churches he planted or helped plant? If Paul could pray this fervently for the Colossian church and possibly others, what is your plan for praying for your church? Make a list of prayer requests for your church derived from Colossians 1. Then commit to praying for those things every day this week (i.e., don’t just make prayer lists—actually pray!).

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

What is God’s will for your life? How do you discover it? Is there some mysterious plan that God has for us that he withholds until we pray hard enough? Does God reveal specific guidance regarding vocational plans, educational plans, marital plans, family plans, and other major life decisions?