

**Be Reformed** – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

**Be Charismatic** – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

**Be Community** – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

**Be Missional** – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

## Colossians 1:9-14

9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. 11 May you be strengthened with all power,

according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## Study Guide 8 January 2012 Building God's City Through Prayer



### Summary

In this passage Paul tells the Colossians how he has been praying for them. Paul understands the power of prayer in building up the people of God because the Kingdom is a Spiritual Kingdom that is built by God Himself. Through prayer we work together with God to see His purposes come to pass on the earth.

Paul prays for two main things, that they would know God's will and that they would have strength to endure through trials in fulfilling God's will. Paul wants them to know God's will so that they will live their lives in a way that is pleasing to God and bearing fruit. And Paul prays for strength to endure because He knows that the enemy comes to discourage us and tempt us over time and we need to be lifted up through prayer.

### Key points

It is imperative that we give ourselves to prayer for God's people if we want to see God's Kingdom growing in this city.

### Questions

- >>When you are faced with frustrations about other Christians in your life, is your primary response to pray for them?
- >>On what basis do we endure temptation?
- >>How can you be more disciplined about praying for your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?
- >>Pray for someone else in the church right now, and make it a habit.

### Final thoughts

At RHC we are aiming to be a visible demonstration of the Kingdom of God to those around us. This is a spiritual kingdom that we must see ushered in through faithful prayers. Will you join us at our prayer meetings and in our times of fasting to this end?

*"I have so much business I cannot get on without spending three hours daily in prayer." –Martin Luther*