**A Powerful Prayer**

(Colossians 1:9-14)

**Pastor Lorne Trudgian**

“Just want you to know that I am praying for you.” *How* can I pray for you?

For what does specific prayers requests does the Apostle Paul pray for the believers in the church in Colossae?

As we study his prayers for them we ask God for the same for us here. This is one of the most powerful prayers Paul ever prayed. And what these believers needed in their lives for spiritual renewal we also need ourselves in our own lives this morning.

Having completed his thanksgiving (1:3–8) because Paul had so much to give thanks for, he turns from thanksgiving to prayer.

In Colossians 1:9-14 ***Paul makes three requests in his prayer for their spiritual renewal:***

Request 1: ***That you may know God’s will*** (1:9-10).

Request 2: ***That you may be strengthened*** (1:11).

Request 3: ***That you may be joyful and thankful*** (1:12).

Next Paul outlines the special *cause for Christian thanksgiving* in a sequence of three clauses, each of them with striking features. You are thankful in trying times because you know that:

1. “God has *qualified* you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light” (vs.13a).

2. “He has *delivered* you from the domain of darkness and *transferred* you to the kingdom of his beloved Son (vs.13b).

3. (vs.14) “In whom you have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

We are going to actually pray this text and pray this prayer.

Simply repeat after me praying out loud as I pray . . .

**My Prayer**

**“Heavenly Father, I pray/ you would fill me with the knowledge of your will. I pray for increased spiritual wisdom and understanding/ so I may walk in a manner worthy of You. I pray I may live a life fully pleasing to You/ that I may bear fruit in every good work/ and that I may increase in my knowledge of You.**

**Father, I pray/ You might strengthen me with Your power. I need strength to endure/ and to be patient/ in my everyday trials and testings. I depend upon the joy I have in Christ. I pray for increased patience.**

**Thank You for qualifying me/ to share in the future inheritance of the saints. Thank you for delivering me/ from the domain of darkness/ and transferring me to the kingdom of Your beloved Son. And above all/ I pray and praise You/ for the redemption I have in Christ/ and for the forgiveness of my sins. In this I am truly thankful and rejoice. I pray this powerful prayer of the Apostle Paul/ in Jesus’ name.”**