



**Christ Over All**  
My Purpose  
*Colossians 1:9-14*

**Introduction**

The church at Colossae was new to the faith. What did it mean now to be a follower of Jesus in a culture of Gnostics and religious zealots? How would they discern the will of God and find their new purpose? Paul sends them an amazing prayer to show them that the supremacy of Christ affects how we find and live out our purpose in life.

1. Read Colossians 1:9b:

*"...asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,"*

Share a time when you felt you were able to discern God's will for a specific situation, or a time when you thought you may have done something out of fear, or guilt or pride, that was not really aligned with God's will for you.

How does reading the Bible and seeking God for spiritual insight over a situation work for you? Discuss.

2. Read Colossians 1:10-11

*<sup>10</sup>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; <sup>11</sup>being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;*

What do you think it means to "bear fruit" (see also Galatians 5:22-23 (character); Titus 3:14 (good deed); Romans 1:13 (evangelism))? How have you seen 'fruit' in your life or in someone else? Discuss.

How have you experienced "being strengthened" by God in a tough situation?

What does it mean for you to "endure" with "patience"? Discuss.

3. Read Colossians 1:12-14

<sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

How has your life and purpose changed since God has “transferred” you into His kingdom? How does the joy of the future impact how you live today? Discuss.

### **Application**

Share a situation with the group that requires spiritual wisdom and understanding. Take a few moments to pray for God to reveal His will for you.

## Over All Colossians 1:9-14 Christ over my Purpose

Theme: Christ over My Purpose

### A. Strategic Prayer (Colossians 1:9a)

“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you ...,”

Romans 1:8- “First, I thank my God ...for all of you...”

1 Corinthians 1:4- “I give thanks to my God always for you...”

Ephesians 1:16- “I do not cease to give thanks for you...”

Philippians 1:3- “I thank my God...for you, always in every prayer...”

1 Thessalonians 1:2- “We give thanks to God always for all of you...”

### B. Filled (Colossians 1:9)

#### 1. “Knowledge”

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,

### B. Filled (Colossians 1:9)

#### 2. “Spiritual Wisdom”

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,

### C. Fruitful (Colossians 1:10)

#### 1. “Walk worthy”

<sup>10</sup> 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; <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;

### C. Fruitful (Colossians 1:10)

#### 2. “Bearing Fruit”

<sup>10</sup> 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; <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;

Psalm 1:1a & 3a

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked...He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season..."

What is Spiritual Fruit?

Galatians 5:22-23

"But the fruit of the Spirit is..."

Titus 3:14

"... engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful."

Romans 1:13

"...fruit among the nations..."

Why Spiritual Fruit?

John 15:8

"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

Matthew 7:16 "You shall know them by their fruit..."

C. Fruitful (Colossians 1:10-11)

3. "Being Strengthened"

<sup>10</sup> 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; <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;

D. My Spiritual Purpose (Colossians 1:12-14)

<sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Revelation 5:10

"And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign ..."

2 Tim. 2:12

"If we endure hardship, we will reign with him..."

Luke 16:10a

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much..."

**Prayer**

Dear God,

Please give me spiritual discernment for [ \_\_\_\_\_ ].

Amen.