Applying It In My Life ……Group time - 15 minutes

1. How does Paul's prayer challenge your prayer priorities for yourself and others? Set aside intentional times of prayer this week.

2. What is slowing you down from growing? Are you seeking spiritual understanding? Do you see the fruit of walking worthy of the Lord?

3. Paul's requests spring from his confidence in the gospel. How can you daily remind yourself of what God has done for you and in you?

MEMORY VERSE | WEEK 2

… 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. – Colossians 1:10

Prayer Time ……..…Group time - 15 minutes

Thank God for the treasures of the gospel that assure He will hear us and respond to our needs. Ask God to deepen your knowledge of His will so that you might live to please God. Ask God to help you endure joyfully by His strengthening power. And finally, ask God to bring others to hear and understand His grace.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Also: write down a prayer for the whole group for God to give: knowledge for living rightly; power for enduring joyfully; and assurance in the gospel. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so that in future weeks you can see where God is answering your prayers.

UNDILUTED JESUS
The Prayer We Need

What does every Christian need?

God's Knowledge for Right Living **Colossians 1:9-10**

God's Power for Joyful Enduring **Colossians 1:11-12**

God's Guarantee for Answered Prayer **Colossians 1:13-14**

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of September 18-24, 2016

Getting Started ……..…Group time - 20 minutes

1. If there are new people in your group, have them briefly introduce themselves and have everyone else share their names again. (If you discussed sharing testimonies, let someone share at this time).

2. What are some hobbies or interests that stayed with you as you grew up? What helped you get better (grow) in those areas? What hindered your growth?

3. What do your prayers normally consist of? Praise, thanksgiving, confession, requests? What sorts of things do you request for yourself? For others?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God's Word ……..Group time - 40 minutes

Read Colossians 1:9-12

1. Paul's prayer moves naturally from thanking God to asking God, taking us to the heart of what is most important in the Christian life. What does Paul specifically pray for in v 9? What is the relationship between God's knowledge and living rightly? What are the results of this kind of living?

2. What is the second prayer request Paul makes for the Colossians (vv 11-12)? What is the purpose of this strength? What does this tell you about the level of difficulty Christians must go through in life? Yet, what is to characterize our endurance?

Read Colossians 1:13-14

3. What has God accomplished for us in Jesus? How is life before Christ described? Why is it described that way? How does this compare to the description of the new life in Christ? (See also Ephesians 2:1-7)

4. Living rightly and enduring joyfully can sound rather daunting and exhausting. How can a Christian have confidence that God will provide the knowledge and power we need? Why will God answer these prayers?

Read Matthew 6:5-8

5. In Jesus' "sermon on the mount" He gives special instruction on the gift of prayer. How do some people abuse this gift? Who is the primary audience of our prayers? What sort of prayer is God looking for from his children?