

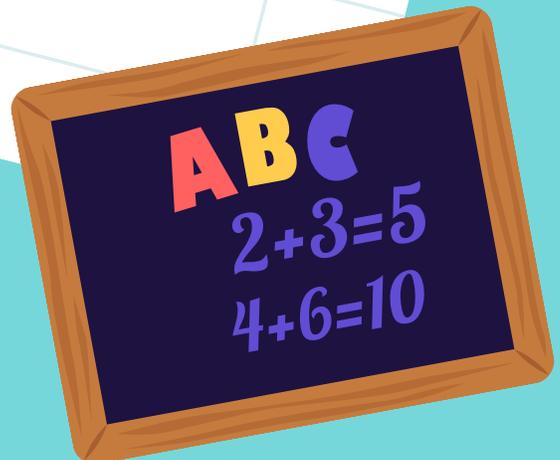
LET'S



PRAY



FOR MY CLASSMATES

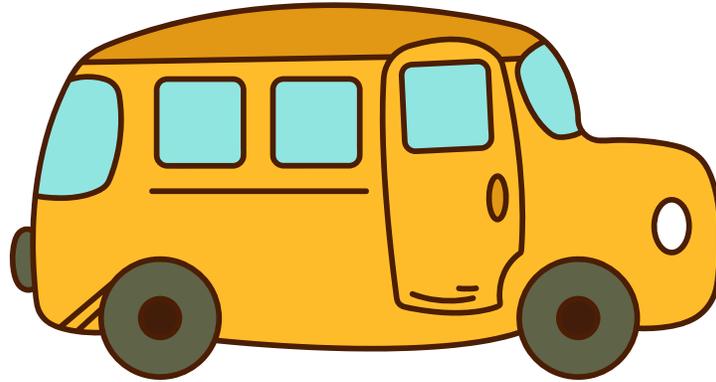


## **Let's Pray for your Classmates!**

Introduction: These verses and prayers are based on the book of Colossians in the Bible. Paul wrote Colossians with Timothy to the church at Colossae. In this book, there are a lot of prayers and desires for the people in Colossae that you can pray for your classmates this year. The book tells us that the people of Colossae learned the gospel from a fellow servant of Jesus named Epaphras. Paul writes that Epaphras "struggled in prayer" for his fellow believers in Colossae. This guide is to help you follow the example of Epaphras and pray for those you are sharing life with at school! I hope that you enjoy it as a family!

God bless,

April Graney



Scripture Quotations are from the King James Bible.



## Day 1

Read the Word:

Colossians 1:3 "We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you." (KJV)

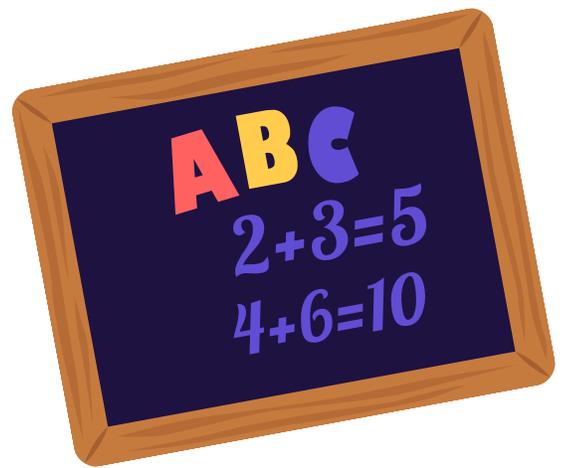
This is a letter from Paul to the church at Colossae. In this letter, prayer is talked about a LOT! Paul says that the very first thing he does whenever he prays for these people is thank God for them! And since he says always, we know that Paul thanks God for them every time he prays for them! Isn't that cool?

Talk it over:

How can you be thankful for each one of your classmates? Try to think of one thing that you appreciate about each person in your class! Is there someone in your class that it is hard to be thankful for? Try to think of even one small way that you can be thankful for that person. Then, try to remember to tell them at school tomorrow why you are thankful that they are in your class! I bet it will brighten their day a LOT!

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving me classmates to learn with at school! Thank you for giving me the chance to become friends with kids in my class. Thank you for allowing me to share your love with kids who might not know you. Thank you for letting me get to know kids who might look or act differently than I do. Help me to be thankful for each kid in my class, even if sometimes it is hard to do. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 2

Read the Word:

Colossians 1:3-4a "We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints." (KJV)

Remember yesterday when Paul said he thanks God for the people of Colossae every time he prays for them? Today we learn that the reason he prays for them is that he heard about their faith in Jesus, and how they love each other! Some of your classmates might have faith in Jesus, but others might not! That doesn't mean we can't pray for them. It means we get to pray that they hear about Jesus so they can put their trust in Jesus too! Knowing Jesus helps the people in Colossae love each other, just like knowing Jesus can help your classmates love each other!

Talk it over:

Do you have any classmates who know Jesus already? Do you know any who don't know Jesus? Are there any classmates you aren't sure if they know Jesus? You can ask them! If they don't, then you can tell them! How can you show love to all of your classmates, the ones who know Jesus, the ones who don't know Jesus, and the ones you aren't sure about?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for ALL of my classmates! You have placed each one of my classmates in our class, and you know exactly what is in each of their hearts! Thank you for loving each one of my classmates so much! I pray that you would help me find classmates who trust in Jesus so that we can encourage each other. Help me to find classmates who don't know Jesus so that I can tell them about you. Help their hearts to be open to hear about your love! Help me to love ALL of my classmates, wherever they are in their knowledge of you. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 3

### Read the Word:

Colossians 1:9 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;" (KJV)

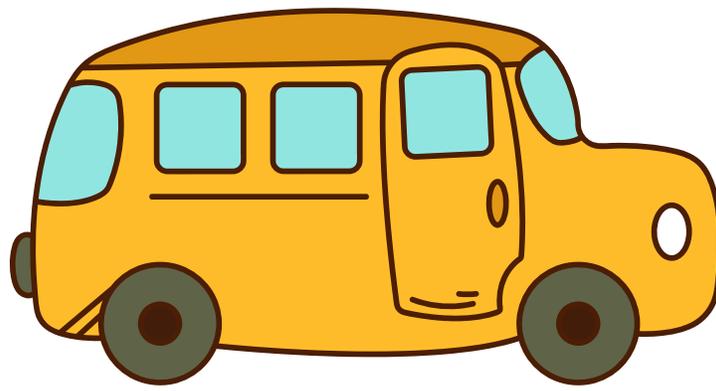
The last two days, we learned that Paul always thanked God for the people's faith in Jesus and love for each other. Now we read that Paul prays that they would have lots of knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. Paul wants them to know God's will and how to apply it to their lives. We should all want to have lots of wisdom that is based on truth right? And we can pray that for our classmates too!

### Talk it over:

What kinds of choices do you and your classmates have to make every day? Do you and your classmates do a good job of listening to the teacher's instructions? What are the rules in your classroom that your classmates need to follow? What exciting things are you learning about in your classroom right now? Do you have a favorite storybook, activity, or experiment that you enjoy at school?

### Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for all of my classmates! Thank you for the incredible things we are learning about the world you created! Thank you for giving us the chance to listen and learn from our teachers. Help me and my classmates to learn everything you want us to learn this year at school. Help us to know what is true and what is not. Help us to know how to make good choices at school. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 4

Read the Word:

Colossians 1:9a-10 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you,...that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God..." (KJV)

Here Paul is praying that the people of Colossae will do what is right all of the time, and that they will bear fruit. But that doesn't mean they are fruit trees! That would be silly right? Instead, it means that just like a tree makes fruit that can be enjoyed by other people, bearing fruit means doing good things for others!

Talk it over:

When have you seen one of your classmates help someone else in the class? Have you ever helped someone else in your class do something? Sometimes teachers assign students to be helpers and do certain jobs in the class. That's awesome! But it doesn't have to stop there! Classmates can decide to help each other on their own too! Did a friend forget their lunch? Maybe you could share? Is a classmate sitting alone at recess? Maybe you could include them? How can you do something good for a classmate at school?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my classmates! I pray that they will have a chance to get to know you so that they can be the best helper possible! Help us to help others and do kind things for each other. Help my classmates to see me as an example of someone who helps other people. Help me and my classmates to make good choices so that we will always please you. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 5

Read the Word:

Colossians 1:9a, 11 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you,....Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness..." (KJV)

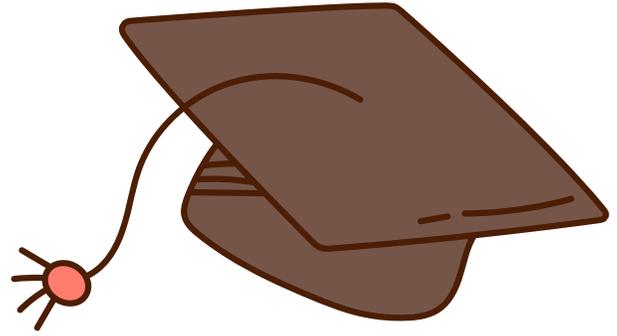
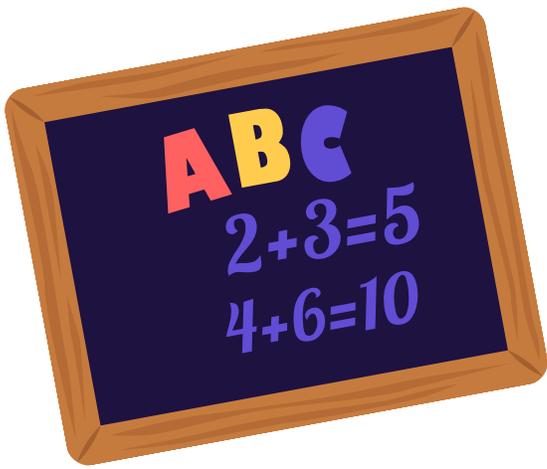
This is a prayer for strength, endurance, patience, and joy for the people in Colossae! Paul is praying that their strength would come straight from the mightiest one of all—God himself! He prays that they would have strength for a certain reason. Can you guess what it is? He wants them to be strong so that they can endure hard things with patience and joy! Now that can take a lot of strength! He wants them to have joy even when things are hard. What a wonderful thing to pray for the people!

Talk it over:

What feelings do you think your classmates have when things at school are hard? How do you feel? How can God help us to be strong when things are hard? Sometimes learning what kids are supposed to learn at school is harder for some kids than others. How can you encourage a classmate who is struggling to learn? How can you encourage each other to endure with patience and joy?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my classmates. Thank you for giving us the chance to grow and learn with joy even when things might be hard to learn. Give my classmates strength and endurance to not give up. Help me to encourage and help anyone who is struggling to learn. Help me to be joyful and patient with my classmates. Help them to have patience with each other and find joy in each day at school. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 6

Read the Word:

Colossians 1:13 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son..." (KJV)

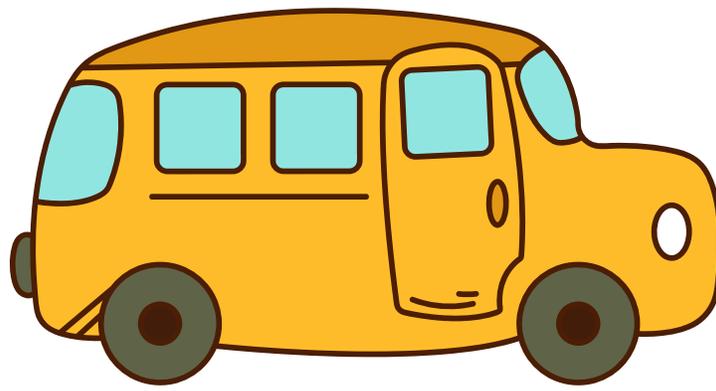
Here Paul is talking to the people who have trusted in Jesus at Colossae. He explains to them that because of their faith in Jesus they are now forgiven of all of their sins! Paul tells them that they have been rescued from darkness and now belong to Jesus in a kingdom of light!

Talk it over:

Knowing Jesus means that our sins are forgiven by God. Have you ever prayed and asked God to forgive you? Have you ever had to ask a parent, sibling, or classmate to forgive you? It's sometimes hard to do right? But we need to forgive others when they hurt us. Is there a classmate who you need to forgive? Is there a classmate you need to ask to forgive you for what you did to them or said about them? Do it soon before you forget!

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my classmates, even the ones who might have treated me badly. Please help me to forgive them. Please help me to see when I have hurt someone else and give me the courage to ask them for forgiveness. Thank you for sending your son Jesus to die on the cross for my sins, so that I can be forgiven. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 7

Read the Word:

Colossians 2:6-8 "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (KJV)

Here Paul encourages the people to not just believe in Jesus, but to follow him! He uses the image of a tree with roots that dig deep into the soil for food. He wants them to dig deep into knowing Jesus so that they will not be deceived by things the people who don't know God say are important.

Talk it over:

What are some things that your classmates think are important? What things do you think are important? What things do you think are important to God? How can you "dig deep" to get to know Jesus better? What things do some people think are important that God would not think are important? Are the things that are important to you the same things that are important to God?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my classmates! Help us to know what is important to you and what is not. Help us to know you better. Help us to want to spend time with you, praying, reading the Bible, and going to church. Help us to not be fooled into thinking things are important that aren't important to you. Thank you that I have the chance to get to know you better, and that you love me so much you want to get to know me!



## Day 8

Read the Word:

Colossians 3:8 "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth." (KJV)

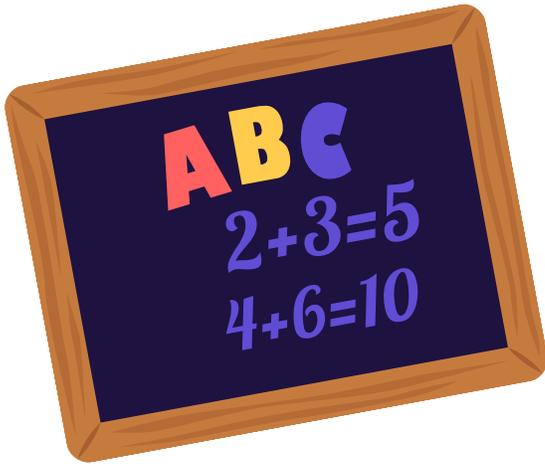
Paul explains to the people how important it is for them to get rid of anger that causes them to say mean and unkind things about each other. He says that they all used to act like this, but it is time for them to stop doing those things.

Talk it over:

Have you ever gotten angry and said something unkind to a classmate? How did you feel afterwards? Has a classmate ever gotten angry and said something unkind to you? How do you feel after that? Angry words don't feel very good to anyone do they? The next time you feel angry, what can you do to try and keep your cool? What can you do to not say something unkind?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for my classmates! Thank you for the days we get to spend together. Sometimes though, we get angry at each other. Please forgive us when we get angry and help us to control our tempers and our words. Help us to stay calm and be able to express our feelings in a healthy way. Help us to listen and understand each other so that we don't get angry. Help us to say sorry when we need to do that. In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 9

Read the Word:

Colossians 3:12-14 "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." (KJV)

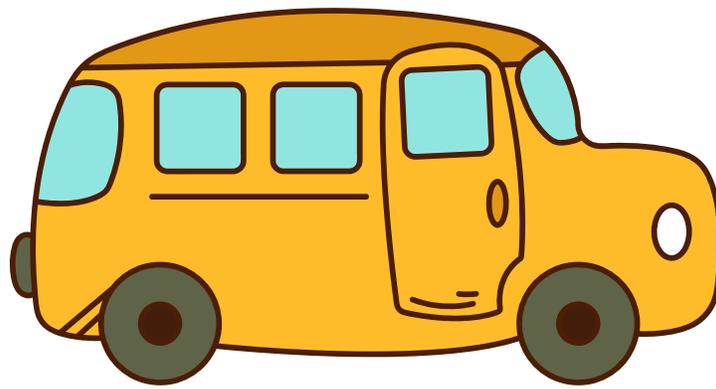
Remember yesterday when Paul talked to the people about getting rid of anger? Now he tells them what they should replace their anger with! Just like we change from one set of clothing to another, we should put off our angry "clothes" and put on compassionate, kind, humble, meek, patient, forgiving, and loving "clothes!" That's a lot to put on. But I believe you can do it with God's help!

Talk it over:

What do you think it means to be compassionate? What does it mean to be humble and meek? Do you think kids think more about themselves or other people? How can you start thinking more about your classmates' needs instead of your own wants? Give one specific idea of how you can do something kind for someone else tomorrow! Then be sure to report back how it goes!

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, Thank you for all of my classmates! Thank you that each one of my classmates is an opportunity to do something kind for them! Please help my classmates want to be kind to each other. Help us to become great friends who think about each other's wants and desires before our own! Thank you for loving each one of us so much that you want us to love each other also! In Jesus name, Amen.



## Day 10

Read the Word:

Colossians 4:2-3a "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ," (KJV)

Here Paul asks the people to keep on praying all the time with thankfulness, and he asks them to pray that he would have lots of chances to talk about Jesus to people who have never heard of him!

Talk it over:

Why do you think Paul wanted the people to pray so much? Do you think that thanking God for things is important? What are 5 things you are really thankful for? Did you know that there are some people who have never heard of Jesus? Wow! Could you pray that you and your classmates who know Jesus will have a chance to tell people about him?

Pray the Word:

Heavenly Father, thank you for all of my classmates! Thank you for my classmates who already know Jesus! I pray that we would have lots of chances to tell people about Jesus who don't know him already. I pray that we would be thankful to you for all of the good things you have done for us. I pray that our thankfulness would be contagious and that others will grow in their thankfulness because of us. I pray that you would help us to take the chances you give us to tell others about Jesus. In Jesus name, Amen.



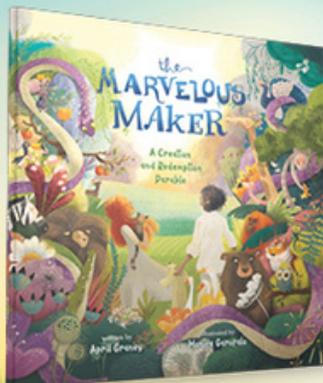
# I PRAYED FOR MY CLASSMATES!

Way to go! Sign your name here:

[A large, light purple rounded rectangular box intended for signing names.]

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