

Colossians 1:9-14
A Blessing on Your Home

The undershepherds' prayers ...

- I. Our Commitment to Pray for You
 - A. Begins with Thanks
 - B. Has a Clear Focus
 1. Increasing Knowledge of God
 2. Knowledge of His Will
 3. Applying Knowledge to All of Life
 - C. Is Common, Constant, Custom
- II. Seeking God-Pleasing to Results
 - A. Worthy Walk
 - B. Bearing Fruit
 - C. Strong & Enduring
 - D. Patient & Joyful
 - E. Thankfulness
- III. Inspiring Action
 - A. Shedding Hindrances
 - B. Pursuing Means

... and the power behind them.

Children, Listen ...

1. Did you know that your elders and deacons are committed to pray for you?
2. Will you pray for them – that God would help them be good elders and deacons?
3. How can we get to know God better and what he likes more?
4. Are the things God tell us to do in the Bible the best things for us to do?

Intentional Prayer

The word "intentional" has become a sort of evangelical buzzword-adjective for just about any spiritual pursuit these days. Maybe it's just me ... but aren't most things we do in service to God intentional ... that is, as opposed to random or willy-nilly? Who would accidentally involve themselves in intensive Bible study, randomly pursue ministry, inadvertently tell someone about Jesus, or unintentionally grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord? I suppose the term indicates a clear focus and goal for what one is intending to do – if that is the case it certainly applies to biblical prayer. The apostle Paul is overtly "intentional" in his prayers for the various churches he is associated with. The content of his prayers give us a glimpse into what apostolic priorities were for the church and thus, it stands to reason, insight into what is important to God Himself. Paul's prayer for the Colossians provides us with good material for the elders and deacons as they pray intentionally for the flock at Covenant – and good material for you to keep your intentions in line with what God intends for you!