

## Sermon Text Discussion Notes 1/13/2019

Colossians 1:9-14 – “Transformation” by Drew Hunter

### Overview

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Apostolic prayers should shape our own prayers and shape our vision for life. In a word, Paul in Colossians 1 prays for *transformation*. In his prayer we see that the source of transformation is God alone. The purpose of transformation is to live so as to please Christ. This involves bearing fruit in good works, growing in knowledge, exhibiting patience, and joyfully giving thanks. Transformation comes through knowledge, so let us seek to grow in the knowledge of God and his will this year.

### Quotations

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“When Paul prays for Christians, we catch a glimpse of what the Christian life should really be about.” Drew Hunter

“If you’ve trusted in Christ, you’ve received a privileged position. And now you’re called to live worthy of this position.” Drew Hunter

### Understanding & Application

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- 1) One of the purposes of the prayers recorded for us in Scripture is to shape our own praying. What similarities do you see between Paul’s prayer in Colossians 1:9-14 and the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13? What differences?
- 2) The spiritual wisdom and understanding for which Paul prays in v. 9 is *Spirit-given* wisdom and understanding. Since it comes through reading, listening, and thinking, the prayer implies that the Spirit’s activity in us is pervasive. How should this make us humble? How can we be more aware of the Spirit’s presence and work in us?
- 3) Drew indicated that at any point in time we can and should ask, “How can I honor Christ and please him now?” Do you believe your actions can actually bring pleasure to Christ Jesus? Discuss how some seemingly mundane things in daily life can be done in a way that pleases him.
- 4) Do you ever find yourself bored with the gospel rather than overflowing in thanksgiving as Paul seems to do? If so, what can be done about it? Does this prayer itself give some clues?
- 5) Drawing on verse 9, Drew said that transformation comes through knowledge. What are some practical steps you can take to grow in the knowledge of God and his will in 2019?