

By giving example of
physical effects of
righteous prayers –
Jas. 5:17-18, Acts 12

By giving example of the
mental or emotional
effects of righteous
prayers – Phil. 4:6-7

How might we emphasize the
benefits of prayer?

By giving example of
God's answering power
to righteous prayers –
Acts 12, Acts 4

By giving example of the
spiritual benefits of
righteous prayers –
I John 1:9, Colossians

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **Be prayerful of faithful brethren! Col. 1:3, 9-12**
 - **Offer prayers on behalf of saints!**
 - **V. 3-4 – Be thankful for their faith and love!**
 - **V. 5-8 – This comes from a common hope!**
 - **V. 9 – Pray that they may be established and firm in the understanding of God's word! (Col. 4:12)**
 - **V. 10 – Praying that good works may come!**

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **Be prayerful for the spread of the Gospel!**
Col. 4:2-4
 - **Offer prayers on behalf of all who seek to teach!**
 - **V. 3 – Pray that doors of opportunity might be made available for teaching**
 - **V. 4 – Pray that we all will make it “manifest”, speaking as we ought to speak**
 - **“Manifest” = “to make apparent, known”**
 - **“Ought” or “Ought” = “as is necessary; duty or obligation”**

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **Be sure to pray “fervently”!**
 - **Jas. 5:16:**
 - “...*effective fervent*...” = *energeo*, “to be put forth with power, energy” with implication upon its content (**Jas. 4:2-3, 1:6-7**)
 - “...*of a righteous man*...” = *dikaios*, “that which is in line with God’s character”
 - “...*availeth*...” = *ischuo*, “effective, capable of producing results”
 - “*The prayer of a righteous man that is put forth fervently and properly can bring about much good.*”

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **What emphasis does Paul make upon the character of prayer?**
 - **Pray always, without ceasing! Col. 1:3, 9**
 - **Col. 4:2 “*continue*” = lit. “*be strong towards*”, endure in, be steadfast in**
 - **Col. 4:2 “*vigilant*” = “keep awake”, “be spiritually alert”, suggests that prayer is essential in maintaining a “vigilant” mind**

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **What emphasis does Paul make upon the character of prayer?**
 - **Let it be characterized by thanksgiving!**
 - **Because of the hope in Christ – Col. 1:12-14**
 - **Because of all the blessings (physical and spiritual) in Christ – Col. 4:2**

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

- **What emphasis does Paul make upon the character of prayer?**
 - **Let prayer come from an honest and loving heart! Col. 4:12-13**
 - “...*laboring fervently*...” = agonizomai, “to contend for, strive or labor for”, cf. **Jude 3**
 - “...*zeal*...” = zelos, “fervent attention”, with implied attention to its emotional source, cf. **Rom. 10:2**

Paul's emphasis on the benefits of prayer

1) Always pray for the faithfulness of our fellow brethren, thanking God that we have such to help us get to Heaven!

2) Always be mindful that efforts are constantly underway to teach others the Gospel, and let us pray for doors of opportunity by which others may be saved!

3) Always pray from a righteous heart, with thanksgiving, mindful of all the ways in which God has blessed us!