

I. A prayer of thankfulness

- A. Paul is thankful as he thinks of his friends

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:4)

- B. Paul prays for his friends
- C. Paul prays with a joyful heart
- D. Paul prays for his partners in the gospel

II. A prayer of confidence

- A. There is confidence that God is working in them
- B. There is confidence that God will keep working in them
- C. There is confidence that God will complete his work in them
- D. There is confidence that Christ will return someday

“So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (Matthew 24:44)

- E. There is confidence that they are on the journey of grace
- F. There is confidence that Christ’s love is being shared

III. A prayer for spiritual growth

- A. A prayer for growth in their agape love

“May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as our does for you.” (I Thessalonians 3:12)

- B. A prayer for growth in their personal knowledge of God

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 3:18)

- C. A prayer for growth in their spiritual understanding
- D. A prayer for growth in their ability to discern what is best
- E. A prayer for growth in their purity of heart
- F. A prayer for growth in their personal integrity

“So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.” (2 Peter 3:14)

G. A prayer for growth in their spiritual fruit harvest

“And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way; bearing fruit in every good work.” (Colossians 1:10)

H. A prayer for growth in their ability to bring glory to God

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)