



THE WEEKLY CHALLENGE - KNOW IT • DO IT • LIVE IT - Each day, spend intentional time in **the Word, prayer, and meditation**, then ask three questions:

PRAYER — What is God saying? – Lord, help me discern Your will.

PURPOSE — What is God asking me to do? – Lord, help me obey Your will.

POWER — What must I trust God to accomplish? – Lord, empower me to live Your will.

GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

Growing in **PRAYER** — Discerning His Will

Growing in **PURPOSE** — Doing His Will

Growing in **POWER** — Empowered to Please Him

We spend time with Jesus not simply to learn more about Him, but so that His Word, His presence, His purpose, and His power transform us to become more like Him.

MONDAY — GROWING IN PRAYER - Knowing Him Changes Us: Colossians 1:9–10; 2 Peter 3:18

Reflection: Paul begins by saying, “**We have not stopped praying for you.**” His first concern is not what the Colossians are doing for God, but what God is doing *in* them. Prayer is more than bringing God our requests. It is relationship. As we spend time in God's presence, His Word begins shaping our thinking, prayer aligns our hearts with His, and meditation allows His truth to sink deeply into us. There is an important progression: **Spend time with Jesus → Know Jesus → Become like Jesus**. Christlikeness does not happen accidentally. We intentionally place ourselves where God can form us.

Journaling Questions:

1. Am I intentionally spending time with Jesus or merely fitting Him into my schedule?
2. How is God's Word currently shaping my thinking?
3. What area of my character needs to become more like Christ?
4. What could I change this week to create more time for prayer, Scripture, and meditation?

Prayer Prompt: *Jesus, I want to know You more deeply. Give me a hunger for Your Word and Your presence. As I spend time with You, transform my thoughts, attitudes, desires, and actions so that my life increasingly reflects You. Amen.*

TUESDAY — GROWING IN DISCERNMENT - Hearing and Recognizing His Voice: Colossians 1:9; Romans 12:1–2

Reflection: Paul prays that believers would be filled with the knowledge of God's will through spiritual wisdom and understanding. God has given us His **written Word**, which provides the truth and foundation by which we live. The Holy Spirit also illuminates and applies that Word personally and specifically to our circumstances. The New Testament uses the Greek word **rhēma** for a spoken saying or utterance. In Christian teaching, *rhēma* is sometimes used to describe a timely or personally applied word from God. The important safeguard is this: **what we believe God is speaking personally should always be tested by and consistent with Scripture**. The more familiar we become with God's Word, the better equipped we are to discern His direction. **We do not just need information—we need illumination and discernment.**

Journaling Questions:

1. What has God been emphasizing to me through His Word recently?
2. How do I distinguish God's direction from my own desires?
3. Is there a Scripture the Holy Spirit keeps bringing back to my attention?
4. What decision or situation requires greater spiritual discernment right now?

Prayer Prompt: *Holy Spirit, renew my mind and give me spiritual wisdom. Illuminate Your Word and help me recognize how You are applying its truth to my life. Guard me from confusing my desires with Your voice and give me discernment to recognize and follow Your will. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY — GROWING IN PURPOSE - Knowing His Will So We Can Do His Will: Colossians 1:9–10; Romans 12:1–2

Reflection: Two little words connect knowledge with purpose in Paul's prayer: “**So that...**” Paul wants them to know God's will **so that** they will live differently. God does not reveal His will simply to increase our knowledge. **Revelation requires response**. We can know Scripture and still resist obedience. We can recognize God's direction and still choose our own way. Spiritual maturity closes the distance between **what I know** and **how I live**. The question is not merely: “**God, what is Your will?**” It is also: “**God, am I willing to do Your will when You reveal it?**”

Journaling Questions:

1. What do I already know God wants me to do?
2. Where is there a gap between what I believe and how I live?
3. Is there an act of obedience I have been postponing?
4. What would it look like to live intentionally for God's purposes today?

Prayer Prompt: *Father, do not allow me to be satisfied with simply knowing Your will. Give me a willing and obedient heart. Show me Your purpose and give me courage to walk in it, even when obedience requires sacrifice. Amen.*

THURSDAY — GROWING IN FRUITFULNESS - A Life That Pleases Him: Colossians 1:10; Galatians 2:20

Reflection: Paul describes a life that **pleases God, bears fruit, and continues growing in the knowledge of Him**. That kind of life is not produced by simply trying harder. Paul gives us the secret in Galatians: **“Christ lives in me.”** Christlikeness is Jesus increasingly expressing His life **through ours**. Our old priorities begin giving way to His priorities. Our attitudes become shaped by His character. Our relationships begin reflecting His grace. Our choices increasingly honor Him. The goal is not merely **behavior modification**. It is **life transformation**. **The evidence that Christ is growing within us is that Christ becomes increasingly visible through us.**

Journaling Questions:

1. Where do I see evidence that Jesus is changing me?
2. What part of my old self needs to be surrendered to Christ?
3. Would people who know me best say they increasingly see Jesus in me?
4. What fruit does God want to produce through my life right now?

Prayer Prompt: *Jesus, live Your life through me. I surrender my plans, preferences, attitudes, and desires to You. Produce Your character in me so that my words, actions, relationships, and choices bring pleasure to You and fruit for Your Kingdom. Amen.*

FRIDAY — GROWING IN POWER - His Strength for His Purpose: Colossians 1:11–12

Reflection: God calls us to live lives worthy of Him—but He never intended for us to do it in our own strength. Paul prays that believers would be **strengthened with all power according to God's glorious might**. Notice what God's power produces in this passage: **Endurance. Patience. Joyful thanksgiving**. We often think God's power must look spectacular. Sometimes His power is revealed in a miracle. But sometimes God's power looks like a believer who keeps trusting when life is hard, keeps loving when relationships are difficult, keeps serving when tired, and keeps obeying when quitting would be easier. **God's purpose requires God's power**. The same Christ who calls us to follow Him gives us the strength to do it.

Journaling Questions:

1. Where am I trying to live the Christian life in my own strength?
2. What situation currently requires God's endurance or patience?
3. Where do I need God's supernatural strength to obey Him?
4. How might God's power be displayed through my weakness?

Prayer Prompt: *Father, strengthen me according to Your glorious power. I cannot accomplish Your purposes in my own strength. Give me endurance, patience, joy, and courage. Empower me through Your Spirit to live a life that pleases You. Amen.*

SATURDAY — GROWING INTO CHRISTLIKENESS - Prayer • Purpose • Power: Colossians 1:9–14; 2 Peter 3:18; Galatians 2:20

Reflection: Read Colossians 1:9–14 one more time and notice the movement of Paul's prayer: **PRAYER — “Filled with the knowledge of His will.”** We spend time with God until His Word shapes our minds and His Spirit directs our hearts. **PURPOSE — “So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord.”** We do not simply **know** His will—we **do** His will. **POWER — “Being strengthened with all power.”** We do not accomplish His purposes through our strength; we depend upon **His strength**. And where does all of this lead? **Christlikeness**. Paul reminds us that we have been rescued from darkness and brought into the Kingdom of God's Son. We belong to Jesus now. Spiritual growth is allowing that new reality to increasingly shape every area of our lives. **His Word renews our minds. His presence transforms our hearts. His purpose directs our lives. His power enables our obedience.** That is what it means to **grow in Christlikeness**.

Journaling Questions:

1. What has God spoken to my heart through His Word this week?
2. What have I learned about His will and purpose for my life?
3. What specific act of obedience needs to follow what He has shown me?
4. Where will I need His power rather than my own strength?
5. If I continue growing in Christlikeness, what should look different in my life six months from now?

Prayer Prompt: *Jesus, I want more than knowledge about You—I want to know You and become like You. Speak through Your Word, renew my mind, reveal Your purpose, and give me courage to obey. Strengthen me through Your Spirit so that I may live a life worthy of You, please You in every way, and bear fruit for Your Kingdom. Amen.*