

This prayer guide is modified from the prayer guide for the 2016 Faith @ Work summit. <http://fwsummit.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Summit-Colossians-Prayer.pdf>

Day One: Read Colossians 1

Colossians 1:6-8

All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

Father, thank You for the men and women who, down through the ages, have been faithful laborers in the marketplace—spreading the gospel in the course of everyday commerce so it could reach me centuries later.

Thank You also for the men and women of faith who work together with me in my company. Thank You for drawing each of us to Yourself—and for the faith, love, and hope we bring to each other. I rejoice in all You are doing throughout the world and for what You are about to do in our company. I ask that You be at work in me—that I might bear fruit in every good endeavor, grow in Your knowledge, and experience Your power to do my work in a manner that is pleasing to You.

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your work in creation and recreation. You made me and now have remade me. I long for the day when You will make all things new again. Until then, please be at work in me to make my small domain a little more like what You created the world to be.

Day Two: Read Colossians 2

Colossians 2:2-5

My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

I confess that I struggle with making Christ the Lord of every area of my life. I often make Your work my god and define myself by what I do. Thank You for Your steadfast love and forgiveness. Proclaiming Your Lordship in the workplace flows against our secular culture and, at times, against other spiritual leaders. Help me to be gracious to those whose opinions differ from mine. This week, may we encourage each other to sink our roots deeply into Christ.

I ask that You fill me with Your grace that I might be a blessing to everyone You bring across my path at work. Because Christ is my treasure I can give myself freely to others. Deliver me from envy and any feelings of superiority. Help me remember that what I have or don't have, what I have done or not done, and what I have received or not received from others matters not because of what I have in Christ. When we go our separate ways at the end of this prayer time, I pray that we will all feel richer and understand more of the wealth we have in Christ.

Day Three: Read Colossians 3

Colossians 3:15-17

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Thank You, Father, for the shalom that is mine in Christ. Forgive my feelings of inadequacy, inferiority, and insecurity. Help me live out the truth that I am whole in body, soul, and spirit— and wealthy beyond measure in Christ. Because of this, I can think about myself less. I can think less about my reputation, less of what others think of me, less of how I stack up in this company—and I can think about others more. May my demeanor and humility remind others of who they are in Christ. Help me to see each person through Your eyes and remember that I am Your servant. May I be alert for how You want me to serve or bless others this week.

I also thank You for loving every part of life on earth. What happens in my home, my workplace, and my community matters to You just as much as Sunday worship. Help me see everything I do as an opportunity to worship You, and every day may my first and last thoughts be about You.

I ask that You open my eyes this week to Your purposes—to new possibilities, new partners, and new opportunities to bring the transforming power of the gospel into my workplace. Grant each of us wisdom about how we can work with You and each other to enable this company to do its business in a way that is honoring and pleasing in your sight.

Day Four: Read Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-3 *Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message ...*

Colossians 4:5-6 *Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

Colossian 4:17 Tell Archippus: “See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord.”

You have called me to a work that is impossible to complete apart from Your power and grace. Thank You for the wisdom and the will that are mine in Christ. Help me to gain more clarity about who You have made me be and what You have made me to do, and may I do Your will with grace and devotion.

Thank you for these faithful brothers and sisters who are fellow workers in Your kingdom. We need each other for encouragement, wisdom, and strength. Draw our hearts together as You did Paul, Onesimus, Aristarchus, and Epaphras.

And finally, I pray that You would return us to our jobs filled with courage, conviction and grace.