

MEN'S FORUM

Focused Living Ministries

Fall 2013 Prayer

Napoleon once conquered an important island in the Mediterranean Sea.

As his generals discussed their victory, a young officer came boldly before the emperor and asked, "Give me this island as my own!" To the amazement of the generals Napoleon immediately granted him the island. "Why would you gift him such a great island?" asked the generals. Napoleon responded, "I gave him the island because he honored me with the magnitude of his request!" Our awesome Father is honored when as His sons we ask for great things that please His heart. The character of our amazing God is celebrated when we request things only He can achieve, worshiped when we pray for that which is beyond our reach, and esteemed when we ask for 'elephants' instead of settling for 'peanuts'!



(Colossians 1:28-29) The Apostle Paul had a God-sized vision that only God Himself could fulfill. What was the passion of his heart? What passionate desire/vision for others has God placed on your heart as you head into the fall or is your fall filled with football and peanuts?



(Col 1:9-12) As a sinful man Paul realized that 7 days without prayer made one weak. He also understood the principle **'No prayer, no power!'** He knew that *"you can do more than pray after you have prayed; but you can never do more than pray until you have prayed."*

(A.J. Gordon) So he challenged the men at the church he started in Colossae to join him in prayer asking that God would raise up an army of spiritual soldiers who would step forward in faith to compassionately touch the lives of others for Christ in the decaying and corrupt Roman culture. List at least 7 of the requests many for which Paul prayed. Which of these do you want your TAG Team to pray for you and your family as you head into this fall season? Why?

(Col 1:13-18) What motivated Paul to pray so fervently? What will motivate you to pray in a way that honors God this fall? Why is the supremacy of Christ as Lord and Savior the best motivation of all? What is motivating you as you head into this fall?

(Col 1:13) If you have a relationship with God through Christ, then you have graciously been **"RESCUED from the domain of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of His beloved Son."** Which of the requests in verses 9-12 will you most need in order to step forward by faith to become a **Rescued Rescuer**? Write the initials of 3 men whom you will pray the Lord to rescue.



TAG TEAM British WWI army officer and Chaplain Oswald Chambers said, *"We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don't want to wait for God to resolve matters in His good time because His idea of 'good time' is seldom in sync with ours."* Use **Colossians 1:9-12** as a guide to **pray together for the fall as a first move rather than a last resort. Pray for God to soften hearts, change lives and grow men deep.**

"It says on your resume that you were created in God's image. Very impressive!"

