

# **PBC Growing in Christ**

**Minister Patrick and Stephanie Burrage**

September 13, 2020

# Class Norms

A large, dark wooden cross stands in a field of tall grass. The cross is silhouetted against a sky with soft, golden light from the setting or rising sun, creating a dramatic and contemplative atmosphere. The cross is the central focus of the image, with its vertical post and two horizontal arms clearly visible.

- Place your microphone on mute.
- Use the chat room. Located in the upper right of the screen.
- Interact in the class just raise your hand. The instructor will take you off mute.
- Technology may not always work....please be patient.
- God is always in the midst
- Enjoy the class.

# Growing in Christ

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- Every day is an opportunity to grow in the word.
- Growing in Christ will tackle real life issues, while studying the bible for its answers.
- Examine challenges believers and non-believers face every day.
- Growing in Christ bible study will focus on how Christians face challenges and how the bible addresses these issues.



# Growing in Christ

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*To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:12-13 (NIV)*





# Committed to Prayer Colossians 1:3-12

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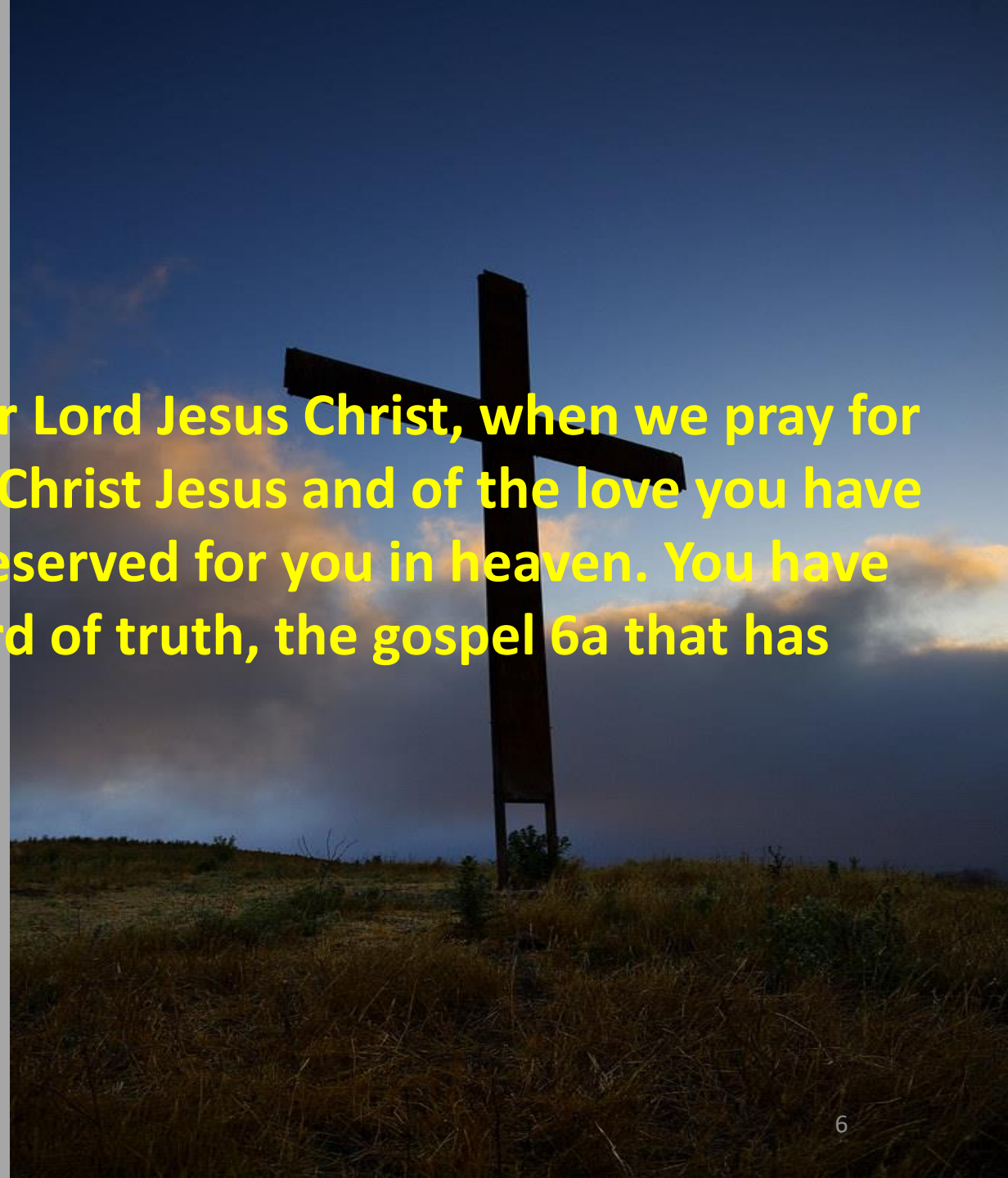
What is your favorite way  
to communicate?

# Scripture

## Colossians 1:3-6a

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3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints 5 because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You have already heard about this hope in the word of truth, the gospel 6a that has come to you.





# Committed to Prayer Colossians 1:3-6a

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When have you been encouraged by the prayers of others?

Why is it helpful for us to pray for one another within the church?



# Committed to Prayer

## Colossians 1:3-6a

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- Pray with thanksgiving for other believers.
- We pray about our needs and the needs of those we love and are close to. That's not a bad thing!
- We should also pray for and remember what God is doing in the lives of other believers. And with those prayers should come thankfulness for how God is at work.



# Scripture

## Colossians 1:6b-8

6b It is bearing fruit and growing all over the world, just as it has among you since the day you heard it and came to truly appreciate God's grace. 7 You learned this from Epaphras, our dearly loved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, 8 and he has told us about your love in the Spirit.





# Committed to Prayer

## Colossians 1:6b-8

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Why is it important for us to pray for those who share the gospel?

How can we be intentional about following through when we say, “I’ll pray for you”?



# Committed to Prayer

## Colossians 1:6b-8

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- Pray for those who minister and spread the gospel.
- A second way we can pray is connected to those whom God uses to help us grow in Christ. It reminds us that, as we express thanks to God for how He works in the lives of other believers, we also should pray for those God is using to accomplish His work in our lives.

# Scripture

## Colossians 1:9-12

9 For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, 10 so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.



# Committed to Prayer Colossians 1:9-12

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What do you like best about the prayer requests in these verses?

How does praying regularly and specifically contribute to our spiritual growth?



# Committed to Prayer

## Colossians 1:9-12

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- Pray for the spiritual growth of other believers.
  - Pray they would be filled with the knowledge of God's will.
  - Pray they would live lives worthy of and pleasing to Christ.
  - Pray they would be fully strengthened by God.
  - Pray they would give joyful thanks to God.



# GROWING IN CHRIST IN ACTION

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

- **Morning prayer.** Prayer is like a muscle; if you don't use it, it atrophies and gets weak. If you never or rarely pray, commit to begin each day in prayer this week. Before you get moving each morning, pause and pray. Pray that God would strengthen and use you throughout the day. Pray for your pastor and leaders in your church. Then pray for believers around you.
- **Deeper prayer.** Commit to a regular time of prayer each day that isn't rushed or hurried. Carve out an extended time when you can sit quietly and talk to God without demands or interruptions. Keep a journal of your prayers. Over time, you can look back and see how God answered them.
- **Focused prayer.** Create a detailed list based on the three ways this session identified that we can pray for each other. List people in your life for whom you want to pray these specific prayers.

# Final thoughts about Commitment to Prayer



- It's important to remember we were never meant to sit on the sidelines, applauding Paul and saying, "Wow, Paul!"
- Paul gave us an example of how we're to live our lives. Many of us just pray
- We can pray for the glory of God and the health of the church, as well as the prayer requests that follow.





# Final thoughts about Commitment to Prayer

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We are going to love the hell out  
you!

# Resources

2 Corinthians 9:8

Ephesians 2:10

Philippians 3:20

Colossians 4:12-13

John 17:20-26

**BIBLE-Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth**

**[Bible.com](http://Bible.com)**





Next Week: September 20, 2020  
**Committed to Worship**

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Romans 14:1-4,13-19

**When have you been swept  
up in a moment of  
excitement?**



# God Bless You!

Min. Patrick Burrage

734-787-8531

[burragep007@gmail.com](mailto:burragep007@gmail.com)

Min. Stephanie Burrage

734-787-8553

[burragestephanie@comcast.net](mailto:burragestephanie@comcast.net)