

# Intercessory Prayer and the Book of Colossians

An Expanded View of Intercession Utilizing a

Pauline *Prayer List* and A CONCENTRIC CIRCLE OF PRAYER as Examples for Believers Today

(An Extensive List of Items for a Believer's Intercessory Prayer List based Primarily on the Book of Colossians)

Paul, "Standing in the Gap" for Believers and the World

Version 2.0 update of the May 5, 2020 Prayer List

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## The Healthy Habits and Spiritual Disciplines of Intercession\*

\* INTERCESSION: The action or activity of intervening\*\* on behalf of another.

\*\* INTERVENE: To come between so as to prevent or alter a result or course of events

Question: "What does it mean to stand in the gap (Ezekiel 22:30)?"

Answer: In Ezekiel 22:30 the Lord says, "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one."

The word picture painted in this verse is that of a wall with a hole or a gap in it. A wall was the best means of protection in ancient times. A breach in the wall would let the enemy through. If there was a breach in the wall, defenders would have to swarm to that location and hold the breach. The gap would need to be repaired as soon as possible. If a breach was left unattended or unrepaired, the city would fall.

Source: GotQuestions.org <https://www.gotquestions.org/stand-in-the-gap.html>

## Introduction to the Concentric Prayer Circle

Based on a Through the Bible Study (TTB) of the Book Colossians May 5, 2020 \*

Our study in the Book of Colossians has revealed some valuable spiritual insights and reminders of our riches in Christ and our obligations to believers and the world. One of the useful insights was implied Paul's Prayer List (Colossians 1:3, 9). This really impacted me afresh after years (decades) of head knowledge. Well, this has caused me to come up with the spiritual challenge to me and perhaps also you to include a more comprehensive and greater variety of individuals and concerns in my "Prayer List" based primarily on Colossians' insight and some other Scriptures. I hope this study result will benefit you as much as it has inspired me (*trying to keep a prayer attentiveness*) with a **better focus and aim** in my own personal prayer life. I suggest you might try praying this exact Prayer List once or twice and then gradually adapt it as you begin to gain insight and spiritual growth, or return to your prior practice.

The idea of the "sample circles" below is for you artistic types to **create something workable and beautiful for your own use** or for others in the Body of Christ. If you create one, email me so I can see your circle. Maybe I can compile these various Concentric Prayer Circles in one online place for the benefit of the Body of Christ.

Others of you may be content at keeping the list as it appears here.

**Do as the Spirit leads you.**

### Video Link

\* For the YouTube video discussion of this expanded Version 2.0 document, search, "hammonds prayer list version 2."

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/ahfsAOep-ew>

# A CONCENTRIC CIRCLE OF PRAYER

(An Extensive List of Items for a Believer's Intercessory Prayer List)  
**(BASED PRIMARILY ON THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS)**

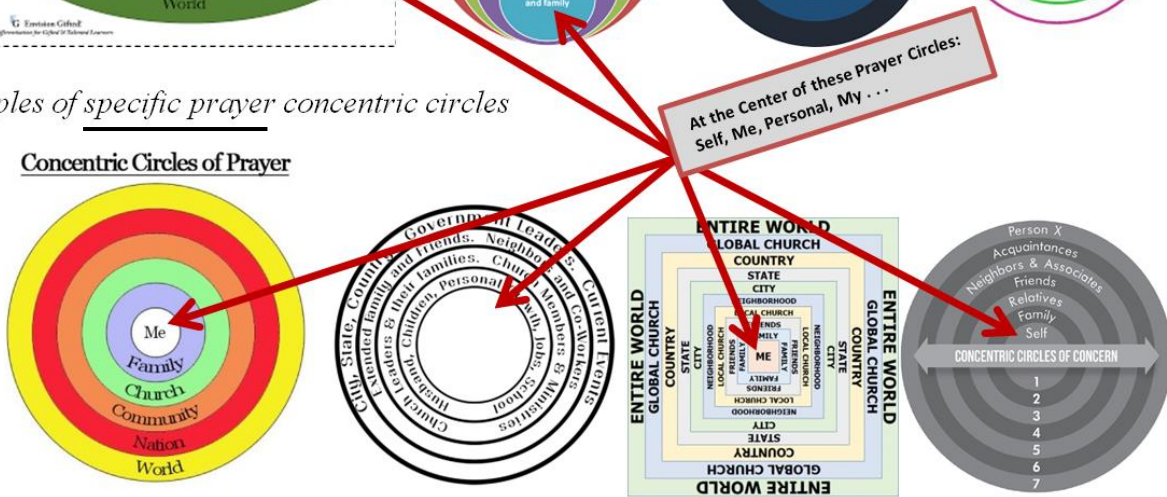
Paul's "Prayer List" Colossians 1:3, 9

Not every element of prayer is included here. This Prayer Circle is merely a starting point for a Prayer List going beyond just "me, my family, and my friends."

Some sample general concentric circle types.

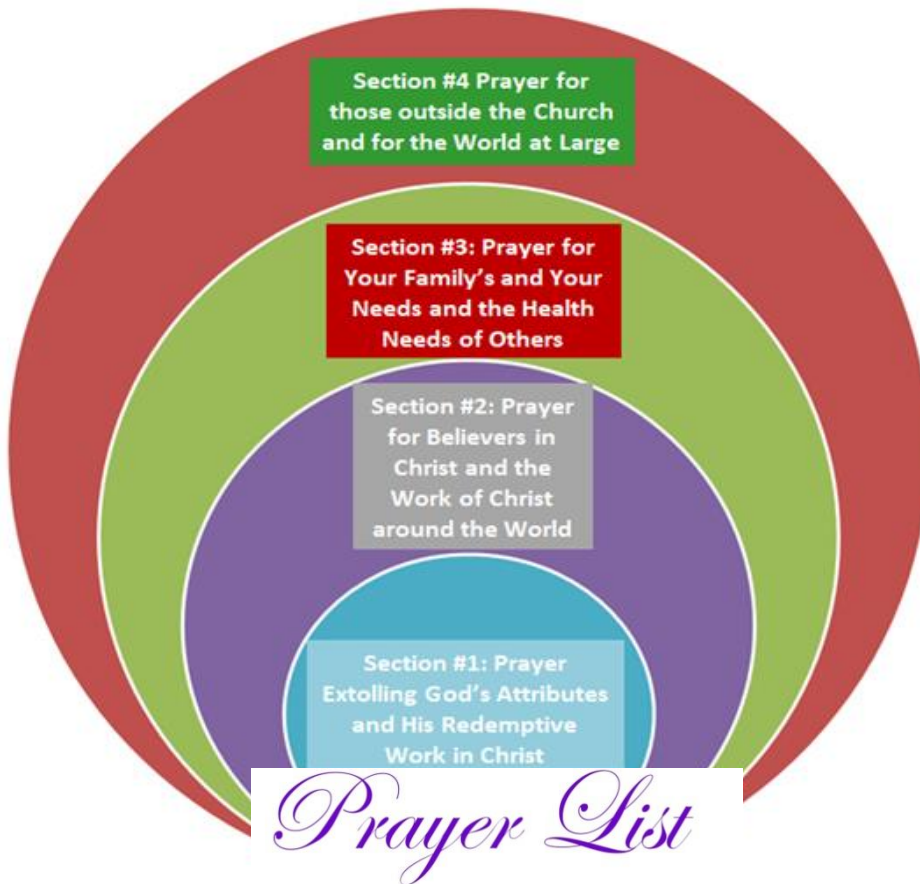


Some samples of specific prayer concentric circles



At the Center of these Prayer Circles:  
 Self, Me, Personal, My . . .

Note: My Concentric Prayer Circle does not have YOU at the center.



# A Summary of the Prayer List Areas And Subcategories within the Prayer List Areas

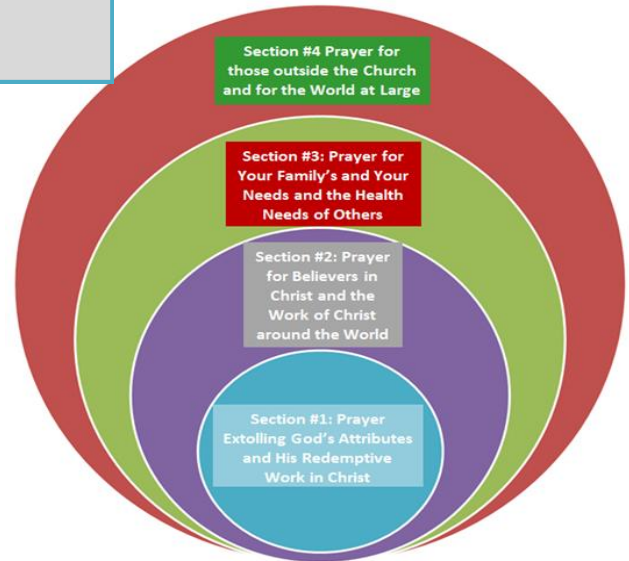
## PRAYER LIST AREAS

(Version 2.0 A Follow Up from a KH Colossians Study Part Two, May 2020)

- Section #1: Prayer Extolling God's Attributes and His Redemptive Work in Christ
- Section #2: Prayer for Believers in Christ and the Work of Christ around the World
- Section #3: Prayer for Needs: Yours, Your Family, and the Health Needs of Others
- Section #4 Prayer for those outside the Church and for the World at Large  
(Paul Calls upon Us to Pray for Everyone – All People.)

## SUB-CATEGORIES FOR ATTENTION WITHIN THE PRAYER LIST AREAS

1. Give praise to God and His attributes.
2. Give praise to God for Christ's redemptive work and attributes.
3. Give thanks for the Spirit's work in our lives.
4. The local church of believers
5. The Church of Jesus Christ; believers around the world
6. Paul seeks prayer for his labor in the Lord.
7. Your family and other families
8. Prayer for certain individuals and groups needing prayer for illness and those who assist in providing health and healing.
9. Bosses, employers, and businesses
10. The world at large
11. Closing with giving thanks AND a God-glorifying doxology.



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## A Detailed Listing of the Four Sections for Intercessory Prayer

### Intercessory Prayer Section #1: Prayer Extolling God's Attributes and His Redemptive Work in Christ

1. Give praise to God and His attributes. (Colossians 1:1-3) **BE DEVOTED TO PRAYER.** Colossians 4:2 (NIV)
  - ❖ Giving thanks and offering up praise, etc.
  - ❖ For more insight, review a listing of the Attributes of God. Meditate on these in your prayers.
2. Give praise to God for Christ's redemptive work and attributes. (Colossians 1:13-20)
3. Give thanks for the Spirit's work in our lives. (Colossians 1:8, 9) Some of the works of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life: He enables, empowers, comforts, intercedes, supports, and acts as an Advocate. The Spirit also imparts intelligence and wisdom. He gives insight into and revelation of truth beyond the outward appearance.

### Intercessory Prayer Section #2: Prayer for Believers in Christ and the Work of Christ around the World

4. The local church of believers (Colossians 1:2-10; see 1:3, 9, 10 – Paul prays for them.)
  - ❖ For their faithfulness to Christ and love to fellow believers in Christ
  - ❖ For all church leaders: Pastors, church officers, volunteers, staff, etc.
5. The Church of Jesus Christ; believers around the world (Colossians 1:3-4)
  - ❖ For their safety, wellbeing, and freedom to worship
6. Paul seeks prayer for his labor in the Lord. (Colossians 4:3-4; See also 1 Corinthians 16:7-9.)
  - ❖ We too can pray for our spiritual work in our ministry areas of calling for the Lord.
  - ❖ For the Gospel to freely go into all the world (Colossians 1:6; 4:3)

**WE (THE CHURCH) ARE AN  
INTERCONNECTED WORLD  
OF BELIEVERS IN CHRIST.**

7. Your family and other families (Colossians 3:18-25)
  - ❖ Their safety, needs, and righteous desires
  - ❖ Your personal needs, your aspirations, and your future plans, etc.
  - ❖ Your personal economy
  - ❖ For prisoners (Colossians 4:18) and the families of those imprisoned unjustly; particularly those placed on Death Row. (The InnocenceProject.org: examines, proves, and exonerates cases based on DNA evidence.)
  
8. Prayer for certain individuals and groups needing prayer for illness, and those who assist in providing health and healing. (Other Bible References)
  - ❖ Prayer for the known sick and unknown ailing
  - ❖ Philippians 2:26-27; Epaphroditus was sick, near death; Trophimus was sick, 2 Timothy 4:20.
  - ❖ Prayer for the intake of effective pain and healing compounds (for healing and strength) 1 Timothy 5:23
  - ❖ Prayer also for medical staff, care givers, etc.

**KH Supposition/Extrapolation:** Luke was the Paul’s ministry team’s personal physician. Colossians 4:14

  - ❖ For Christian missionaries, doctors, scientists, medical researchers, inventors, technological development, and for all those around the world who assist in helping humans live a better quality of life to help raise the level of human conditions and environments.



**Intercessory Prayer Section #4: Prayer for those Outside the Church and for the World at Large (Paul calls upon us to pray for everyone — ALL PEOPLE.) (1 Timothy 2:1).**

9. Bosses, employers, and businesses (Colossians 4:1)
  - ❖ Your boss and employer, and all others
  - ❖ For improvement and the fostering of honest, helpful business, and entrepreneurial growth. For fair and honest treatment of workers, with **abundance** for **ALL** (owners, executives, managers, and workers).
  
10. The world at large (1 Timothy 2:1)
  - ❖ Governments and governmental leaders (local, state, and global)
  - ❖ U.S. and world economies and conditions
  - ❖ Here is a listing of some macro problems and institutions in the world to pray for. Choose those that stand out for you at any particular time in world events and add more as you see necessary.

**NUMERO UNO** in my mind of general world prayer needs is **PEACE**: The **PEACE OF CHRIST** in every human heart and social expression of human endeavor. God is Almighty and above all earthly countries. LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Isaiah 37.16

War	World Injustice	Violence and Hatred	World Hunger and Poverty
Legal Institutions and Law Makers	World militaries (army, navy, etc.) as <u>defenders</u> not as AGGRESSORS	Education, schools, educators, and school systems (at all levels of education)	Mass Media (honesty and truthfulness in reporting the news: i.e. events, happenings, gatherings, and needs.
Homelessness	Healthcare	Fill in the blanks with your passions.	

11. Closing with giving thanks AND a God-glorifying doxology. Thankfulness: Col. 1:3, 12; 2:7; 3:15, 16, 17  
 The dictionary defines a doxology as “**an expression of praise to God, especially a short hymn sung as part of a Christian worship service.**” The word doxology comes from the Greek *doxa*, (“glory, splendor, grandeur”) and *logos*, (“word” or “speaking”). KH Note: In the early Church the doxology was, of course, recited or sung without instrumentation.

**Revelation 7:12** - Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

**OR** A More In-Depth Theological Doxology (with *personal* focus and application)

**Jude 24-25** - Now to him who is able to keep you **[ME]** from stumbling and to present you **[ME]** blameless before the presence of his glory with great [KJV, **exceeding**] joy, to the only God, our **[MY]** Savior, through Jesus Christ our **[MY]** Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

**Hebrews 13:20-21** - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our **[MY]** Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you **[ME]** with everything good that you **[I]** may do his will, working in us **[ME]** that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

After the Prayer: **ACTION**  
 The Proactive By-Product of Intercession:  
**Action in the World**

**The Intercession and Proactive By-Product (Action) Relationship**

After the Prayer: **ACTION**  
 The Proactive By-Product of Intercession: Action in the World

Proactive By-Product: **Action in the World**

The By-Product: **ACTION in the World**  
 The proactive by-product of intercession is **ACTION in the world**. The propensity for doing **something** in response to the passion and concern of the prayer was within the original Call to pray. The Call to **PRAY** will issue forth also in some kind of Call to **ACTION**.

