

Reading assignment for December 3-9; Galatians 4-6; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians; 1 Thessalonians

Memory: Philippians 1:6 "*being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ*"

Consider:

1. Paraphrase Galatians 5:16-18.
2. The Bible is rife with examples of one person speaking a blessing over other people. Read Ephesians 1:17-23 and adapt it as a blessing to pray and speak over your loved one(s).
3. In Ephesians 5:22-6:9 Paul points to the principles such as submission, love and honor that are crucial for developing and maintaining healthy relationships. The word *submit* means "to subordinate; be under obedience, or in subjection to another." Paul also stressed the importance of *love* in our relationships. Consider his definition of love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.
 - a. What effect can *submission* and *love* have on relationships? How are our relationships effected when submission and love are absent?
 - b. Honestly evaluate your own life and list the people in your life with whom you struggle demonstrating submission and love. Prayerfully ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in these areas.
4. In Colossians, the Apostle Paul present the case for the preeminence of Christ. This is especially relevant to us today as we bombarded with the erroneous philosophies of moral relativism, universalism and human secularism. Adopt 1:9-12 as a pattern of prayer for your unsaved friends.
5. Summarize Paul's teaching in 1 Thessalonians 5 for living life with expectation of the Lord's soon return.