***Paul’s Prayer in Colossians 1:9-12, Part 2***

“…[we] do not cease to pray for you…that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might… for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father…”  
Colossians 1:9-12

**Walking in the Knowledge of God’s Will (Colossians 1:9)**

Believers are granted the privilege and miracle of partnering with God in His plans.

“…filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.”  
Colossians 1:9

**That you may be filled with the knowledge of His will:** The general will of God refers to that which is important for all believers to know—it includes what His Word reveals regarding who we are to Him, how we are to live, what we are to believe Him for, and what His main kingdom purposes are.

1. Our highest purpose is to receive and express God’s love back to Him and to others. This comes ahead of seeking to make an impact or to be successful from man’s point of view.
2. The knowledge of God’s will includes understanding specific aspects related to our personal life direction and ministry assignments as well as for our local church, our city, nation, etc.
3. The Lord’s main ministry assignments in our life change in various seasons of our life. It is a great blessing to have clarity and confidence in where to invest our time and resources.
4. We express love to others in a greater way as we see more clearly the great diversity in His calling on other people and ministries—instead of being critical of them even in subtle ways.

**In all wisdom and spiritual understanding**: Receiving wisdom includes receiving insight on how to practically walk out God’s ministry assignment in each season in terms of how much of our time and resources we are to invest in our family, other relationships, and in various ministry activities.

Receiving understanding includes receiving insight on how to interpret “what is happening” from God’s point of view when His blessing on our circumstances increases or decreases and when His promises and provision are delayed by His hand or when it is hindered by the enemy.

The sons of Issachar understood the times in that they saw what God was doing in His prophetic purposes in each season, and they knew what to do and what Israel should do in practical action.

“…the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do…” 1 Chronicles 12:32