

Pray for Me

Description

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Ephesians 6:1-20

“Pray for me,” how we complete that sentence reveals more than we might think. A few years ago everyone was praying the prayer of Jabez, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain” (1 Chronicles 4:10). Not a bad prayer, after all God did grant his request. It is very different than Paul’s prayer. Paul doesn’t ask for prayer to get out of prison or ask be free to continue his preaching ministry without restriction. That wouldn’t have been a bad prayer. But, it wasn’t what he prayed.

“Pray in the Spirit,” Paul encourages the Ephesians (6:18). This is prayer available to all God’s people “for all the Lord’s people.” This prayer could be offered “with all kinds of prayers and requests.” This was prayer seeking the mind of the Spirit and focused on the will of God (Romans 8:26-27).

Paul was deeply convinced that he was where he was by the will of God. The freedom he sought was to fearlessly proclaim the gospel, even if it was in chains.

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Date Created

2015/02/28