

Prayer for Wisdom

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.

~ Ephesians 1:17

Discover the Context

Ephesians 1:15-19



Model your own personal prayer time today after Paul's prayer. Pray for true wisdom from above for yourself, your friends, your church, campers, co-workers, those in power above you, and those all around you.



Below are a few other prayers of Paul. Take the time to read over them and create a prayer list that reflects God's priorities. Notice that the content of these prayers is all for spiritual needs rather than the kind of physical needs that can start to dominate our prayer lists.

- ▶ Colossians 1:9-14
- ▶ Philippians 1:9-11
- ▶ Ephesians 3:14-21



You need to establish a routine during the first week of camp for how you will guard your devotional and prayer time. Make a plan. Write it down.

Working at camp is hard.

Whether it's your first year as a counselor or your seventh year on maintenance, you will face challenges that simply don't happen elsewhere. What job training could possibly prepare you for the unexpected diarrhea during a hike? How will you know what to do when the ovens just stop working half an hour before dinner?

Not only do you need to be prepared for bizarre scenarios, you need to do it in a way that gives God glory and furthers the mission of the camp, while preserving a tight-knit community of people who were strangers just a few weeks ago.

Thankfully we have a wonderful example of how to seek wisdom in Paul's opening prayer for the Ephesian believers. Paul doesn't ask God to give them information about how to run a church, deal with tensions, or resolve leadership challenges. No, Paul prays for God to reveal more of himself. That's how amazing God is—we need his help to understand him better, and that revelation is of prime importance!

This doesn't mean we shouldn't pray for practical wisdom to know how to manage camper incontinence in unsupported back country. But the prayer that should be on the tip of our tongues all the time is, "God give me wisdom so I can know you better. Open my eyes to see you and what you're doing. You are my greatest need, and my wisdom starts with you."

This isn't just a personal prayer for yourself. This is the prayer for campers, for fellow staff members, for all of those around you. Your understanding of God's person and character affects the entirety of your life. It's not academic; it will shape your summer.

Our knowledge of him is always limited which is why we should daily call out to God for the purpose of being able to understand who he is. With this as our focus the tyranny of camp challenges will slowly become less overwhelming and fear inducing. [PJS]