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TITLE: The Prayer that Changed a City

TEXT: Philippians 1:9-11: *“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”* (ESV)

TARGET: The church has always been the hope of the world. Our internal health, our togetherness, will determine our external effectiveness.

I. Choose Love by Cultivating a _____ Love:

- A. **Choose God’s kind of love:** *“that your **love** may abound more and more...”*
- B. **Choose God’s kind of approach** *“that your love may abound **more and more...**”*

Key Thought: The prayer that changed a city, shows the progression and benefits of a growing love:

- A growing love leads us to understand and experience truth...
- which enables us to live and love with wisdom...
- thus, creating an appetite for excellence.

II. Choose What is Best by Developing _____:

- A. **A desire for excellence is born out of a growing love:** *“with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may **approve what is excellent...**”*
- B. **Excellent character builds a sincere, authentic, un hypocritical reputation:** *“with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, **and so be pure and blameless...**”*

Key Thought: Choosing what is best involves an exhaustive dedication to the things which are essential and align with our purpose.

III. Live like Jesus by _____ to Seeing Jesus:

- A. **When we anticipate seeing Jesus we treat each other as citizens of heaven:** *“so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, **filled with the fruit of righteousness** that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”*
- B. **When we anticipate seeing Jesus our faith is evidence of the gospel:** *“so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to **the glory and praise of God.**”*
- C. **When we anticipate seeing Jesus our faith is evidence of the gospel:** *“so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness **that comes through Jesus Christ**, to the glory and praise of God.”*

Key Thought: “The fruits of righteousness are the evidences and effects of our sanctification, the duties of holiness springing from a renewed heart, the root of the matter in us. These fruits are by Jesus Christ, by his strength and grace, for without him we can do nothing... We are strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 2:1) and strengthened with might by his Spirit (Eph. 3:16), and they are unto the glory and praise of God.”
Matthew Henry (1662-1714), author and pastor

RECAP: The prayer that changed a city, shows the progression of a growing love:

1. A growing love leads us to know and live truth, while increasing in wisdom.
2. Growing in knowledge and wisdom creates an appetite for excellence.
3. A desire for excellence enables us to live a sincere, authentic and un hypocritical life.
4. **Love leads to knowledge and wisdom leads to excellence leads to an authentic life** that is increasingly demonstrating a fruitfulness that is **loving acts** of kindness and service.



▶▶ ONE WKND

#9 FEB 28

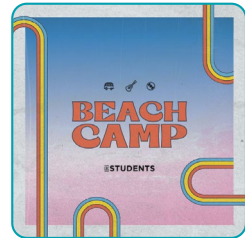
This weekend CBC hosted one of the largest student ministry events we do all year. Hundreds of students and leaders from CBC, along with 8 other partner churches throughout the city, gathered for an amazing weekend conference, ONE WKND! This annual weekend has become a defining one for CBC Students as they experienced worship services, small groups, Mega Meal missions outreach and even a silent disco dance party! Our students were reminded of what has always been true but is sometimes forgotten: we love better, are stronger, are healthier, when we are together. We believe this weekend experience will be a launching point of some incredible things that God wants to do in our church and in our city. We are so thankful for a church that values this generation of students!



Kids Camp
06.05 - 06.09
cbc.social/kidscamp




Middle School Camp
06.19 - 06.23
cbc.social/mscamp



High School Camp
06.21 - 06.25
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▶▶ **SERVICE TIMES** Saturday - 5PM | Sunday - 9AM, 11AM, & 1PM



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