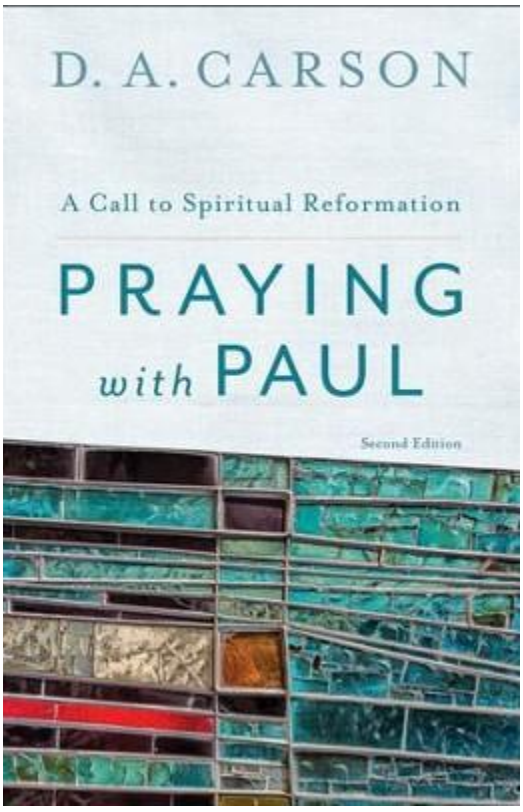
BOOK OF THE MONTH | NOVEMBER 2026

Praying with Paul: A Call to Spiritual Reformation – D.A. Carson



Suggested One-Month Plan
(8-9 pages per day)

Week 1: Monday 11/2-Sunday 11/8
- Introduction: The Urgent Need of the Church
- Chapter 1: Lessons from the School of Prayer
- Chapter 2: The Framework of Prayer (2 Thess. 1:3-12)
- Chapter 3: Worthy Petitions (2 Thess. 1:1-12)

Week 2: Monday 11/9-Sunday 11/15
- Chapter 4: Praying for Others
- Chapter 5: A Passion for People (1 Thessalonians 3:9-13)
- Chapter 6: The Content of a Challenging Prayer (Col 1:9-14)

Week 3: Monday 11/16-Sunday 11/22
- Chapter 7: Excuses for Not Praying
- Chapter 8: Overcoming the Hurdles (Philippians 1:9-11)
- Chapter 9: A Sovereign and Personal God

Week 4: Monday 11/23-Sunday 11/29
- Chapter 10: Praying to the Sovereign God (Eph 1:15-23)
- Chapter 11: Praying for Power (Ephesians 3:14-21)
- Chapter 12: Prayer for Ministry (Romans 15:14-33)

There are so many urgent needs for each of us personally, in our families, for our church, for the society around us, for our nation, and in the world at large. There are lots of topics that are worth spending time and energy to learn about, whether that is reading a book, listening to a podcast, or watching a tutorial. In his introduction, Carson states that none of the many significant needs are as great as the need to know God better. I think most of us at Gilbert Bible church would agree with that statement. We know that we need to continue to grow in knowing Him and trusting Him and honoring Him, even if our feelings are calling out for something else. One specific, essential, and often neglected or misused means of grace for growing in the knowledge of God is prayer.

In this book, Carson intermixes examining the content, priorities, and theology of Paul's prayers with pointed questions to help us examine our own habits, and then practical advice to help us change. I remember reading through the first edition of this book years ago, and being blown away by the clarity of God's Word that is exposited here. It is so helpful to look at the prayers recorded in Scripture and to prioritize those same things in our prayers. Paul prays for the best things for himself and for those he loves. In light of the gospel, in light of eternity, and in light of biblical theology Paul prays that God would change hearts and grow believers in spiritual maturity and ultimately that the Lord would be glorified. I know that I need to continue to grow in praying more often and more carefully for the things that matter most. This book has been a blessing to me and I am praying that the truth that is examined here would be a blessing to you as you seek the Lord in prayer, and it would be a blessing to the body as we help one another grow in Christlikeness.

Grace,
Tyler

GILBERT BIBLE CHURCH