

Thursday Bible Study Groups

Date: 10-21-21 Colossians

Read: Colossians 1:1-10

6 Things:

- 1. What characteristics of the Colossians cause Paul to always be thankful for them?
- 2. How do faith in Christ and love for other Believers spring from the hope described in verse 5?
- 3. What examples of faith, hope & love have you seen in a group of Believers?
- 4. What impresses you about how the gospel was spreading? (v.5-8)
- 5. Reread v. 9. How might spiritual wisdom and understanding help us to understand God’s will?
- 6. What leads to “a life worthy of the Lord?” (v. 10)

A little historical background...
 The city of Colosse is not even mentioned in the Book of Acts. All our Biblical information about the church there comes from this letter and a few allusions in the letter to Philemon...From these sources we learn that Epaphras was responsible for bringing the gospel to the Colossians (Colossians 1:6-7). He was a native of the city (Colossians 4:12), and also got the message out to neighboring towns in the Lycus Valley like Hierapolis and Laodicea (Colossians 4:13)... Perhaps Epaphras heard the gospel himself when Paul was in Ephesus. As Paul taught in the lecture hall of Tyrannus, all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord (Acts 19:10). It would not be surprising if some people from Colosse heard the gospel at that time... his letter – full of love and concern, written to a church Paul had neither planted nor visited – shows the power of Christian love. Paul didn’t need to see or meet or directly know these Christians in order to love them and be concerned for them. (Guzik)

Corresponding Scriptures: How do these verses apply to Colossians 1:1-10?

- 1. Hebrews 5:11-14
- 2. 2 Peter 3:17-18
- 3. 2 Timothy 2:15
- 4. Philippians 1:9
- 5. James 3:17
- 6. 1 Corinthians 14:20

Focus Verse: Colossians 1:9
We continually ask God to _____ you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives...

Write Facts on the back your paper to share in pairs.

Example: This is how we pray for fellow Believers!

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Thursday Bible Study Groups

Date: 10-28-21

Lesson: Colossians Study

Read: Colossians 1:1-14

Five Things:

1. List the qualities of "a life worthy of the Lord." (v. 10-12)
2. How are these qualities related?
3. In what specific ways have these qualities developed in your own life?
4. How does Paul contrast our condition before and after becoming Believers?
5. Practice turning verse 9-14 as a prayer model for yourself, for your fellowship group and for your church. Discuss the importance of reiterating the Gospel to ourselves and to others regularly.

How do the following scriptures apply to Daily Gospel Teaching:

- a. Romans 1:16
- b. 1 Peter 3:15
- c. 2 Timothy 4:2
- d. Ephesians 4:15
- e. Galatians 1:6-9

Focus Verse: Colossians 1:10

Then the way you _____ will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will _____ as you _____ to know God better and better.

Facts:

Close in Prayer: Turn the facts into points of prayer

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Facts:

Close in Prayer: Turn the facts into points of prayer

Thursday Bible Study Groups

Date: 11-4-21

Lesson: Colossians Study

Read: Colossians 1:15-23

Five Things:

1. After you read v. 15-20, make as many statements as you can about why Jesus is supreme.

- a. Christ is...
- b. Christ is...
- c. Christ is...
- d. Christ is...
- e. Christ is...
- f. Christ is...
- g. Christ is...
- h. Christ is...

2. What difficulties have you had in relating to an invisible God? How has Jesus overcome those difficulties? v. 15

3. What actions was God pleased to take to reconcile us to himself? v.19-22 How does understanding God’s actions help you explain why Jesus is the only way to the Father?

4. Explain verse 22.

5. What warning is given in verse 23 and why?

How do the following scripture address this issue?

- a. Hebrews 2:1
- b. 2 Peter 1:9
- c. 2 Peter 2:21
- d. Romans 16:17
- e. Ephesians 5:17

Focus Verse: Colossians 1:23 *But you must _____ to _____ this truth and stand firmly in it. Don’t drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.*

Facts:

Close in Prayer: Turn your “facts” into personal points of prayer.

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Facts:

Close in Prayer: Turn your “facts” into personal points of prayer.

Thursday Bible Study Groups

Date: 11-11-21

Lesson: Colossians Study

Read: Colossians 1:24-2:5

Five Things:

1. How does Paul define God’s commission to him? v. 24-29

2. In the NT, the term *mystery* isn’t referring to something *mysterious* but to something previously hidden which now God wants to make clear. What is the mystery that represents the “word of God in its fullness?” v. 26-2:3

3. What thoughts and feelings arise from the phrase “Christ in you?” v.15-20

4. The Gnostics taught that their secret knowledge was the key to salvation. How would Paul’s description of Christ (2:3-4) protect the Colossians from the “fine sounding arguments” of the Gnostics. What “fine sounding arguments” today lure people away from Christ and hinder spiritual maturity?

5. What are the marks of Christian maturity? v. 2:2-5

How do the following scriptures apply to this issue?

- a. Hebrews 6:11-12
- b. John 13:34-35
- c. Galatians 5:16
- d. James 1:2-4
- e. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

Focus Verse: Colossians 2:4 *I am telling you this so no one will _____ you with well-crafted arguments.*

List Facts from the verse on the back & turn them into points of prayer.

A little background on Gnostics... Gnostics believed that a great mass of elaborate knowledge was necessary for salvation. That knowledge they set down in their books which they called apokruphos because they were barred to the ordinary man.” (Barclay) Paul wanted all to know that real wisdom was not hidden in secret books, but deposited in Jesus Christ so that all can access it.

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Lesson: Colossians Study

Five Things:

1. How do each of the images *rooted, built up, strengthened, and overflowing* help us understand how we should continue to live in Christ?

2. According to Trevethan, the heresy Paul is confronting (v. 8) was a philosophy centered n mystical knowledge gained by religious ceremonies and rigorous ascetic practices. It's 2 major sources were human traditions (Jewish influence) and the basic principles of this world (demonic forces). How would Paul's two statements about fullness in Christ (v.9-10) protect the Colossians from such deceptive ideas?

3. In v.11-15, Paul describes some of what "fullness in Christ" includes. Which of our basic needs did Jesus' death, burial and resurrection meet?

4. Reread v. 14-15. The written record is a signed confession listing personal debts. What has Christ done with this written record with its charges against us?

5. Reread v. 17-23. Since Christ died to set us free from impossible rule keeping, how can Believers often get caught up in rigorous rule keeping?

How do the following scriptures apply to this problem?

a. We forget to do Hebrews 12:2a

b. We forget this about God in 1 John 5:3

c. We misunderstand that people who try to be right by rule keeping are actually this according to Galatians 3:10

d. There is nothing we do that will make us more saved according to Ephesians 2:8.

Focus Verse: Colossians 2:22-23 *Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. These rules may _____ wise because they _____ strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily _____. But they provide ___ help in conquering a person's evil desires.*

Date: 11-18-21

Read: Colossians 2:6-23

Thursday Bible Study Groups

Lesson: Colossians Study

Five Things:

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