



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Small Group Guide: Colossians 1.1-2

Open with Prayer

Discussion Questions:

1. **The Importance of Letters:** Why do you think Paul chose to write a letter to the Colossians rather than visiting them personally? How does this method of communication impact our understanding of the early church and the role of Scripture in our lives today?
2. **Identity in Christ:** What does it mean to you personally to be called a "saint"? How does this identity shape your daily life and interactions with others?
3. **Faithfulness in Trials:** The sermon describes being "faithful" as steady and loyal in our faith. Can you share a time when you struggled to remain faithful? What helped you persevere?
4. **Grace vs. Guilt:** Are you living from grace or trying to earn your way back to God? How can the understanding of grace transform your relationship with God and others?
5. **Centering on Christ:** What are some distractions in your life that might be pulling Christ out of the center? How can you practically put Christ back at the center this week?
6. **The Role of Peace:** How do you define peace in your life? In what ways have you sought peace outside of God, and what are some healthy practices you can adopt to find peace in Him?
7. **Application of the Gospel:** The sermon highlights the importance of sharing the gospel with others. Who has God placed in your life that you feel led to share your faith with? What steps can you take to begin that conversation?

Faithfulness in the book of Colossians: Examined

Trusting Christ and loving his people: faith “in Christ Jesus” expressed in “love...for all the saints,” fueled by “hope laid up...in heaven” (1.4-5).

Letting the gospel change you and spread through you: the gospel is “bearing fruit and increasing,” including in your own life as you “understand” grace (1.6).

Continuing steadfastly in the faith: remaining “stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel” (1.23).

Walking in a way that pleases the Lord: “walk worthy,” “fully pleasing,” “bearing fruit in every good work,” “increasing in the knowledge of God” (1.10).

Enduring with God-given strength and gratitude: being “strengthened...for all endurance and patience with joy,” giving thanks to the Father for salvation (1.11-12).

Holding tightly to Christ’s supremacy and sufficiency: treating Christ as preeminent (1.18), being “rooted and built up in him...abounding in thanksgiving” (2.6-7), and not being taken captive by teachings that pull you away from him (2.8).

Putting sin to death and leaving the old life: “put to death” sexual immorality, impurity, evil desire, greed (3.5), and put away anger, malice, slander, filthy talk, and lying (3.8-9).

Putting on Christlike character in community: compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience; bearing with and forgiving others; and above all “love,” which binds everything together (3.12-14).

Letting Christ’s peace and word govern you: “let the peace of Christ rule,” “be thankful,” and “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,” shaping worship and instruction (3.15-16).

Doing everything under Jesus’ authority: “whatever you do...do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,” giving thanks (3.17).

Being faithful in ordinary roles and work: living faithfully in household relationships (3.18-4.1) and working “heartily, as for the Lord and not for men” (3.23).

Persisting in prayer and wise witness: “continue steadfastly in prayer,” staying watchful and thankful (4.2), walking in wisdom toward outsiders (4.5), and speaking with grace (4.5-6).