



Christ Over All - Week 1 (August 16)

Read **Colossians 1:1-14** and discuss the following.

Have you ever received a letter, email, or phone call from someone you did not know? How did you decide on the person's credibility and whether or not you would hear what they had to say? Why should the Colossians listen to Paul?

Paul describes how he and Timothy are thankful for the evidence of God's grace in the lives of the Colossian church. Which three things does he specifically list as evidence of the gospel "*bearing fruit*"? Can you think of any other places in Scripture where we see these three traits mentioned together?

How is the gospel described in this passage? What does this text say about the gospel in Colossae and the "whole world"? Discuss the global and personal implications of these statements.

What does this passage tell us about Epaphras? Why do you think Paul spent time affirming this man and his ministry? Who is an '*Epaphras*' in your life? Who can you thank God for sharing the gospel with you?

What does the passage tell us about the Colossians? Who are the '*Colossians*' in your life? Whose lives can you thank God for, even if you haven't met them?

What did Paul pray for the believers in Colossae? Why?

If being filled with the knowledge of God's will involves knowing what pleases and delights the Lord, what are some of those things mentioned here in the text? Based upon this passage, what do you think it looks like to "*walk in a manner worthy of the Lord*"? Explain.

What is the difference in being "*unqualified*" and "*disqualified*"? Which best reflects our state before God outside of Christ? How has Christ "*qualified*" you "*to share in the inheritance of the saints in light*"?

Consider the personal and corporate implications of being "*transferred*" from "*the domain of darkness*" into Christ's "*kingdom*". How should this shape your daily and weekly rhythms? Explain.

How does this passage of Scripture most comfort and/or convict you personally?