

Colossians 1:3-8

Nine Life-Changing Characteristics of the True Gospel to thank God

1. The true Gospel is God focused (v. 3)
2. The true Gospel is fruit producing (v. 4)
3. The true Gospel is hope-filled (v. 5a)
4. The true Gospel is completely reliable (v. 5b)
5. The true Gospel is worldwide (v. 6a)
6. The true Gospel is always growing (v. 6b)
7. The true Gospel is grace centered (v. 6c)
8. The true Gospel is faithfully spoken (v. 7)
9. The true Gospel is demonstrated by love (v. 8)

Application of Colossians 1:3-8

1. Often we pray for others in terms of prayer requests, but take some time each day this week to thank the Lord for other believers and His work in and through them as we see from Paul's thanksgiving for the Colossians. I would encourage you to pray for individuals/families in our church in this manner and other saints you know and love.
2. If we use 1 Cor 13:4-7 as the definition of love, what does your love toward other believers look like? In our church do you love **all** the saints or only some? Pray and think specifically about ways to grow in love and ask the Lord to help you love more and to love all, just as He was the example for us.
3. Consider the following verses on hope Col 1:5; 1 Tim 1:1; Titus 2:11-13; 1 Peter 1:13 Reflect on the hope that has been laid up in heaven for you and how such hope can be a motivation for living now. Respond in thanksgiving and praise to God, the source of hope
4. Thank God for the spread of the Gospel around the world. Pray for and thank God for international missionaries you know who continue to spread the Gospel. Consider ways you can be involved in the Gospel bearing fruit around the world
5. The true Gospel bears fruit and increases in the lives of believers through the process of sanctification (becoming more like Jesus), but this is largely executed through the local church. In what way are you involved in or can you be involved in the local church for your growth and that of others?
6. Respond to the Lord in thanks and praise for His grace (see Eph 2:8-9; Rom 3:23-24; Acts 15:11)
7. Thank God for the faithfulness of those who spoke the Gospel to you and pray for God to help you be a faithful messenger to others

Reading this week: Read & pray through the 1st chapter of Colossians numerous times this week.

Sermon Notes for Children (or Children at Heart)

Date _____

Pastor _____

<u>Book</u>	<u>Sermon Main Points</u>	<u>Other Bible References:</u>
	1. The true Gospel is God _____ (v. 3)	_____
<u>Chapter</u>	2. The true Gospel is _____ producing (v. 4)	_____
	3. The true Gospel is _____ - _____ (v. 5a)	_____
	4. The _____ Gospel is completely reliable (v. 5b)	_____
<u>Verses</u>	5. The true _____ is _____ (v. 6a)	_____
	6. The true Gospel is always _____ (v. 6b)	_____
	7. The true Gospel is _____ centered (v. 6c)	_____
	8. The true _____ is faithfully spoken (v. 7)	_____
	9. The true Gospel is demonstrated by _____ (v. 8)	_____

Words you heard during the sermon (tally each time)

God	Christ/Jesus	Gospel	Love	Paul	True

What is the message about? _____

How can you do this? _____

What/who can you pray for? _____

Draw a picture related to the message: