



The Power of the Gospel

Discussion Guide

April 8, 2018

Colossians 1:1-14

Questions for Study

****Before discussing these questions, read through Colossians 1:1-14 as a group.**

1. Why is a root system so important for plants and trees? What happens if that root system is either absent or shallow?
2. Read Colossians 2:6-7 (a theme verse for Colossians). What should followers of Jesus be deeply rooted in, according to this verse? Why is this so important?
3. In Colossians 1:6, Paul says the gospel "is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world – just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace."
 - Read Romans 1:16 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-8. Based on these passages, what is the "gospel" that is working in the Colossian Christians?
 - How does Colossians 1:6 (and these other verses you just read) show the power of the gospel?
 - Do you have any personal stories that illustrate the gospel's power in your own life?
4. In Colossians 1:9-12, Paul clearly states what he's praying for as he thinks about the Colossians. Make a list of all the things Paul wants to see in these Colossian followers of Jesus from Colossians 1:9-12.
5. Do any of these things Paul prays for in Colossians 1:9-12 stand out to you in a special way? Why?
6. Choose one of the things you've mentioned from what Paul prays for in Colossians 1:9-12. What might it look like for you to grow in this area, in very practical terms?
7. Below you'll see key phrases from Colossians 1:13-14 listed out. Spend time on each phrase – observing what it teaches about the work Jesus has done for us:
 - "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness..."
 - "...and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves..."
 - "...in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
8. Now put everything from Colossians 1:13-14 together. In your own words, how do these verses show us the good news of what Jesus has done for us (i.e., the gospel)?
9. What's one big personal take-away you've learned from Colossians 1:1-14? How can you apply this take-away to your life?
10. Challenge: Memorize Colossians 1:1-13-14: ¹³For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.