



Praise and Prayer
Colossians 1:1-6
Week of Oct.20, 2019
David Lee

Objective of this study: To understand what Paul was thanking God for after he heard about the Colossian church, and to apply this to our own lives.

[Remember, the main goal of each Growth Group is to allow God's Word to change your heart so that others would see Jesus in you and be likewise changed to be like him. He wants to change the world through us.]

Worship (5 – 10 minutes)

1. Sing a song or two of praise and thanksgiving to God.
2. Spend five minutes in silence asking God to prepare your heart for hearing his word. After the silence, have someone read **Psalm 100:1-5** meditatively to the group. Pause after each phrase letting God speak to you. **Did anything "jump out at you"?**

Welcome question

What good reports about others have you thanked God for lately?

[It's really important when doing this study that we each think about ourselves specifically and ways we need to grow, not how Christians in general need to grow. Do the hard work of letting the Holy Spirit speak to *your* heart.]

Word/Work (60-90 minutes)

1. What stood out from the sermon?
2. Read Colossians 1:1-8.
3. From these verses, what had Paul heard about the Colossian believers?
4. What are some key words or concepts in this passage?
5. Read the passage again, taking note of cause and effect. What had caused what?
6. How was the Good News of Jesus bearing fruit and growing?
7. Paul hadn't met the Colossian believers, but had heard about them from Epaphras. From what Paul heard about them, what evidence of faith, love, and hope did he see in their lives? What was the object of each? That is, what/who was their faith in, who was their love for, and what was their hope about?
8. Who was Epaphras? To answer this, see Colossians 1:7-8; 4:12-13; and Philemon 1:23. Describe him.
9. What evidence of faith in Jesus, love for others, and hope do you see in Epaphras?
10. What do you find inspiring about anything you read or discussed today about Paul, the Colossians, or Epaphras?
11. What role do faith, love, and/or hope play in **your** life?
12. What would you like to thank God for? What would you like to ask the Holy Spirit for more of?

Prayer:

1. Spend the rest of the time praying for each other. **Thank Jesus for how he grows our faith in him.** Here are some things you can pray about for the church:

- A. That, as a church, we would actively and purposefully engage in the mission of Jesus in Campbell River.
- B. Our church board and staff as they lead us to live out the mission of Jesus.
- C. River Kids ministry as they reach out to kids in our community.
- D. **Our missionary of the week: Diego and Claudia Cardona.** (Check out the church [website](#) for how to pray for them.)
- E. **Local church: Vineyard Church.**

Radiant Life October Drive -Blankets and men's jackets.