

August 18, 2019

Thankful For You
Colossians 1:1-14
Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

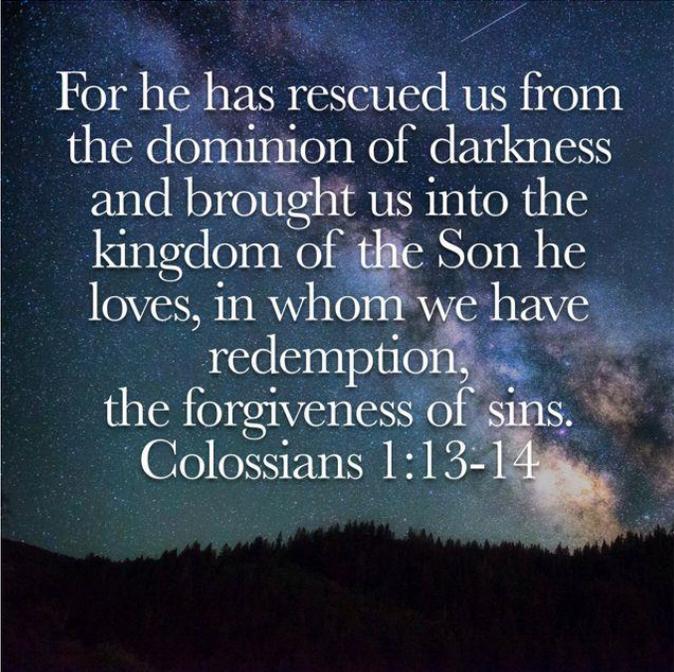
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

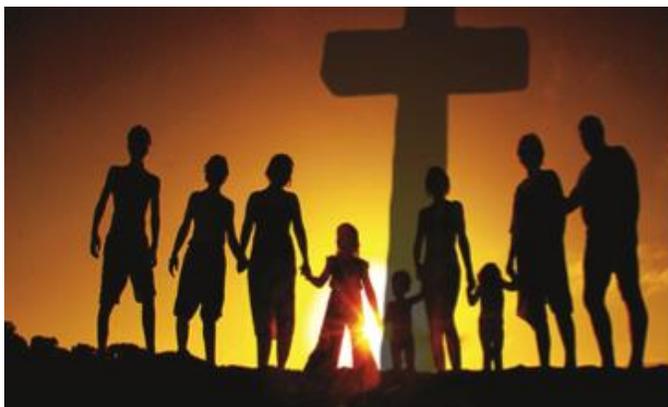
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



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.
Colossians 1:13-14



This week we start a new series on the book of Colossians. This is Paul's letter to the church in Colossae. In this first section we see how grateful Paul is for his fellow believers that are living in Colossae. He rejoices over them and prays for them without ceasing. There is great value in having a Christian community to encourage each other and support each other. However, it is not their work that Paul is excited about. Paul is thankful for them receiving the truth of the Gospel. Now that they have received the Gospel they are able to inherit the riches of the saints that we will receive from Christ. Join us this week as we talk about how the church body can support each other the way we see in this passage.

Colossians 1:1-14 (NASB)

Thankfulness for Spiritual Attainments

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel ⁶which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as *it has been doing* in you also since the day you heard *of it* and understood the grace of God in truth; ⁷just as you learned *it* from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful

servant of Christ on our behalf, ⁸and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

¹³For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. Who is the recipient of this letter? Who is the author?

9. What is Paul thankful for?

10. What is the gospel doing?

11. How does Paul express his thankfulness?

12. What does it mean to bear fruit?

13. What qualifies us to share in the inheritance of the saints?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. How can we be a benefit other believers?

15. How does this passage show that community among believers is important?

16. How has Christ made community among believers possible?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes