

**CHURCH ON THE GROW – PART I**  
**“Growing in the Gospel”**  
**Colossians 1:1-8**

Paul wrote this letter to the church at Colossae to encourage them in their new life in Christ and correct some dangerous teaching that had come their way. He wanted to establish the supremacy of Christ in all things, so they would keep Jesus in the exalted place that he needs to be. Today’s message describes the transforming effect the gospel has in the lives of those who believe in Jesus.

**1. THE AUTHOR IS PAUL – THE APOSTLE, v. 1**

- A. Paul wrote from prison in Rome (AD 60)
- B. Paul had never been to Colossae (modern Turkey)
- C. Paul was an apostle by the will of God
- D. Paul was visited by Timothy when he wrote this letter

**2. THE GOSPEL GIVES BELIEVERS \_\_\_\_\_, v. 2**

- A. The new status of being holy (*hagios*)– “God’s holy people”
- B. The new responsibility - “Be holy for I am holy”, 1 Pet 1:14-16
- C. The new gospel location – Colossae
- D. The new responsibility – “be faithful”
- E. The new extended family ties – “faithful brothers & sisters”
- F. The new spiritual address – “in Christ”
- G. The new reception of the gift of grace – unearned favor
- H. The new reception of peace – reconciliation with God

**3. THE GOSPEL BEARS FRUIT IN BELIEVERS THROUGH THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD’S PEOPLE, v. 3**

- A. Paul is thankful to God for their faith, love & hope
- B. Paul regularly prayed for his churches
- C. People of God need to be people of prayer

**4. THE GOSPEL REQUIRES \_\_\_\_\_ IN JESUS, v. 4**

- A. Faith in Jesus results in the new birth, regeneration, & the new creation, John 3:3, 5, Titus 3:5, 2 Cor 5:17
- B. Faith in Jesus is built by the Spirit for daily living, 2 Cor 5:7
- C. Faith regarding the teaching of the Bible, Jude 3

**5. THE GOSPEL \_\_\_\_\_ BELIEVERS INTO \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE, v. 4**

- A. Love for all God’s people
- B. Love for even our enemies – it’s not an option
- C. Love is the definitive mark of believers (John 13:34-35)
- D. Love in the believer’s heart is a work of the Spirit, v. 8

**6. THE GOSPEL IS GROUNDED ON THE HOPE OF FUTURE \_\_\_\_\_, v. 5**

- A. Hope is the certainty, not likelihood, of realizing God’s promises for the future
- B. Hope is realizing our inheritance in heaven, Eph 1:14, 18
- C. Hope is stored up for us in heaven, 1 Pet 1:3-6
- D. Hope gives us incentive to endure, 1 Cor 15:17-19

**APPLICATION POINTS - THE TRIAD OF FRUITFULNESS**

- 1. Faith, love & hope are \_\_\_\_\_ virtues to develop, 1 Thess 1:3, 1 Cor 13:13
- 2. Faith, love & hope are \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Faith, love & hope should be \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Faith, love & hope are built by the \_\_\_\_\_

**7. THE GOSPEL IS DESIGNED TO \_\_\_\_\_ THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, vv. 6-8**

- A. The gospel bears fruit around the world
- B. The gospel grows throughout the world
- C. The gospel spreads through people - Epaphras

ANSWERS: New Privileges, Prayer, Continuous Faith, Transforms, Loving, Blessings, Foundational, Interconnected, Balanced, Spirit, Spread.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TODAY

Pastor Bruce is beginning a new teaching series through Colossians titled "Church on the Grow." Today's message focuses on the power of the gospel.

### NEXT WEEK

Pastor Bruce will continue his series through the book of Colossians.

### TUESDAY ONLINE ZOOM STUDY & PRAYER

Is canceled for the summer and will resume in the fall

### PICNIC IN THE PARK AUGUST 4th, 10:30

Hillcrest Church and Roseville City Church are partnering to do a community BBQ. Invite a friend!

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL – SEPTEMBER 14, 6:15PM

Join us at Garbolino Park for an ice cream event! Enjoy the fellowship and bring a friend.

### ANT INVASION

We have a serious problem with ants in the building. Please make sure all food is put away in containers and all counter tops are wiped off. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

# *Welcome to Hillcrest Church*

## *Love, Acceptance & Forgiveness!*

*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people*

*Colossians 1:3-4*

*July 21, 2024*

*Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*