

Sermon-Based Questions
February 10, 2019
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Found by His Gospel

Colossians 1:1-8

Introduction (choose 1):

1. Dave mentioned, that as Christians, we sometimes miss the main point. The main point being Jesus.
 - When you have shared the Gospel, has it been received as positive (what Christ has done and why) or negative (all the things they shouldn't be doing)?
 - Do you sometimes forget it's all about Jesus?
2. How does the reputation of Christians today compare with Christians at the time Colossians was written?
3. Were you challenged at the idea of being all-in, half-in or being on the fence? Explain why you feel this is your position.

Understanding (choose 4-6):

4. Read Colossians 1:1-8. In what ways was it obvious that Jesus had entered the lives of this group of people?
5. The first point is that **The Gospel is News**. We know it is good news. Explain why the following two points are good?
 - The Gospel is a message of truth
 - The Gospel is a message of grace
6. The second point is **The Gospel is Advancing**. Do you see the Gospel still advancing in today's society?
7. Were you surprised at the list of where the Gospel is growing the fastest? Why do you think this is happening?
8. The third point is **The Gospel is Transformative**. How has the Gospel been transformative in your life? Do you find it easier to love people now than before Christ was in your life? Why?
9. Dave said, "You can only have a strong faith relationship with Christ, which leads to a strong love for people, if you have a clear sense of hope for your future". Discuss what that means to you.
10. The fourth and last point is **The Gospel is a Person**. The Gospel is Jesus – His plan, His purpose, His will. Have you ever dwelt on the thought that you being a Christian, was God's will? He loved you so much He came looking for you! Does this thought increase your sense of belonging to Jesus and His body of believers?

Application

11. If you feel comfortable, share how you came to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

12. Dave's last application included the prayer by Arthur Burns. "Lord, I pray that all Jews would come to know Jesus Christ. I pray that all Muslims would come to know Jesus Christ. And Lord, I pray that all Christians would come to know Jesus Christ. Amen." What do you think he meant by that? How might that change our witness for Jesus?

13. Remembering the four points Dave gave us, do you feel more equipped to share your faith?

Lectio Divina

1. **Opening Prayer:** Ask God for insight into His Word, for open hearts and minds, for hunger to know Him better, and for an attitude of learning from one another.
2. **Reading:** Have someone from your group read the passage aloud. It is best to print out a copy for each group member so they can read along, make notes, or go back as needed.
3. **Meditation:** Spend an *entire minute in complete silence*, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage quietly to yourself or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
4. **Sharing:** At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
5. **Repeat:** After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times using the same passage. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
 1. What did you hear and what seems important?
 2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
 3. What does it make you think of from your life?

Colossians 1:1-2

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
2 To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters[a] in Christ:
Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

Colossians 1:3-6

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel 6 that has come to you. In the same way, 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.

1John 4:20

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.