



## “Faithful & Fruitful”

Colossians 1:1-8

November 21, 2021

### Questions for Application and Fellowship

#### MY STORY

1. Heading into this Thanksgiving holiday, what is your heart grateful for? How will you go about giving thanks for these things?

#### QUICK REVIEW

Awaiting trial before Caesar in Rome, Paul is on house arrest. He receives a visit from one of his former students, Epaphras, who had planted the church in Colossae. Epaphras brings a glowing report of the church’s faithfulness and the report of false teaching infecting this small city. Paul writes to fortify the church with a clear, accurate view of the supremacy and the sufficiency of Christ Jesus for life and salvation. He does so with a tone of great joy and gratitude for this small church family.

With Paul, let’s give thanks to God...

1. For Living Faith in Jesus Christ (1:3-5)
2. For Gospel Growth throughout the World (1:5-7)

Was any point in this weekend’s message or portion of Scripture particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. Who do you think of as “faithful” brothers and sisters in Christ? What challenges to their faith have they experienced? How was their faith refined through such experiences? How does this encourage you in how God will help you grow?
2. Paul was thankful for the love the Colossian Christians had for “all” the saints. Read Colossians 3:11-14. Have you found that some Christians are hard to love? Who? When? Why?
3. In view of our difficulty loving *all* other Christians, what encouragement is found in verses Colossians 3:12-13? What’s our love and forgiveness to be rooted in? In view of this, what specific grudges or resentment do you need to repent of?
4. Paul had great confidence in the present, active, ongoing fruitfulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ all throughout the world. Read Philippians 1:12-14. How did Paul even view his house arrest as serving the growth of the Gospel? Does this shed light on any circumstance you find yourself in? Who is God positioning you to share the Gospel with?