

A Study Guide to Colossians 1:1-8 (Session 1)

First Baptist Peddie Church

1. Pray for wisdom from the Holy Spirit for understanding God's Word.

2. Read Colossians 1:1-8 aloud slowly several times.

3. Observe

1. Mark any words or phrases that stand out.
2. Write down any questions that arise from the text.
3. Consider the prevalence of the words for the Triune God: Father, Jesus, Christ, Spirit. What does it suggest about the main themes of Colossians?
4. Note the triad of faith, love, and hope (1:4-5) and compare it with the same triad in 1 Corinthians 13:13 and 1 Thessalonians 1:3, 5:8.

4. Watch the Video Lesson on YouTube

5. Interpret / Live out the Word

1. Knowing that this letter was written in a Roman prison, how would you read it differently?
2. Usually, it would be awkward to say that we are "in a person." What does it mean to be "in Christ" (1:2, 4)?
3. What would our heart and mind be like if we were not "in Christ"?
4. Notice the reasons for the Apostle Paul's thankfulness in prayer (1:3-6). In your prayer life, what are you primarily thankful for?
5. The words "faith, love, and hope" (1:4-5) are often misunderstood; for example, faith as assent to certain doctrines, love as romantic feelings, and hope as optimism. How would you define them biblically?
6. From whom did you first hear the Gospel and come to understand "God's grace" (1:6-7)? Who was your Epaphras?
7. In what ways are you helping someone understand "God's grace"?

6. Memorize (use your preferred translation)

(Colossians 1:2b NIV)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.