

WEEK 1

PASSAGE: Colossians 1:1–14

Grace, Peace, and a Prayer That Changes Everything

BIG IDEA

The gospel isn't a one-time decision you make and move past — it's a living, fruit-bearing reality already growing in you, and it's the ground of Paul's prayer for maturity.

1. CONNECT

Q: What's something you've stuck with long enough to actually get good at — and what kept you going when it got hard?

2. READ

READ ALOUD TOGETHER Colossians 1:1–14

Q: As we read, notice everything Paul says he's thankful for or praying for. What patterns do you see?

3. UNDERSTAND

Q: Paul says the gospel is “bearing fruit and growing” among the Colossians (v.6). What does that tell us about what real faith looks like — something finished, or something alive?

Q: Paul prays they'd be filled with the knowledge of God's will (v.9) so they'd “walk in a manner worthy” (v.10). Why does knowing come before doing here?

4. GOSPEL CONNECTION

Verses 13–14 are the hinge of the whole passage: God has already delivered you from the domain of darkness and transferred you into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom you have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. This already happened; it's already true of every believer. The prayer for spiritual growth in verses 1–12 rests entirely on the rescue accomplished in verses 13–14 — you're not growing to become rescued, you're growing because you already are.

Q: If your rescue is already finished and secure, what does that free you from having to prove?

5. RESPOND

Q: Where have you been treating your walk with Christ like something you need to prove, rather than fruit that's already growing from a real rescue?

PRAYER PROMPT

Father, thank You for rescuing me and bringing me into Your kingdom before I did anything to earn it. Help me grow this week not to be accepted, but because I already am.