

A Meaningful Legacy
Colossians 1:5-8

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I. The truth of the Gospel. Colossians 1:5

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your _____ is truth.

- In our world today, truth is a rare _____; it seems like we cannot believe anything that is told to us by the world.

II. The Gospel's influence; fruit. Colossians 1:6

Several weeks ago when we studied **2 Peter** we said, "Since we are **partakers of the Divine Nature** and He has given us **all we need to live a godly life**; our lives should _____ fruit."

- Kingdom minded people need to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, while staying submitted to the Spirit of God, who makes us _____ for good works.

God's grace has absolute truth attached to it. Jesus is the _____ of truth and He left us His word which is truth!

- "Sustaining grace promises not the absence of struggle but the _____ of God. And according to Paul, God has sufficient sustaining grace to meet every single challenge of our lives." (Max Lucado) **2 Corinthians 12:9**

III. Paul's legacy; Epaphras. Colossians 1:7-8

The verb for "**learned**" in this verse is associated with " _____ instruction" rather than a brief outline. (J. B. Lightfoot)

- "Mentoring is a relationship in which a more experienced manager helps a less experienced _____." (Yukl)

Credit should be given to Paul, because he didn't use his vast knowledge of the Bible as a reason not to display _____ by submitting himself to the Lord and Barnabas during the process.

- Here in **Colossians**, we see that Epaphras was taught by Paul and then he went and taught _____ what he had learned as well.

There will be times we will feel _____ in mentoring a Timothy, but if the Lord directs the relationship, He will provide all you need as you surrender and serve Him in that capacity.

IV. Practical Application.

As Christians, we all need to be in a Barnabas, Paul, Timothy _____ process. Imagine you are the Paul in this situation.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **Colossians 1:5**. According to the encyclopedia, "Moral relativism is a popular concept in a globalized world. With such a great diversity of cultures and practices, it seems more difficult to assert that one set of norms should prevail over rivals. If we all share similar standards of right and wrong, there should hardly be any problem. We would all know which actions are morally acceptable, and which are not. But history suggests that we do not share the same moral values and standards, and this has caused major problems for moral practice. Why do we disagree? Who is right? Who is wrong? How are we to settle the dispute?"
John 17:15-18, 1 John 1:8, 1 John 3:18, 1 Kings 17:24, 2 Timothy 2:15
2. Read **Colossians 1:6**. Why is fruit something that naturally overflows from the life of a believer?
2 Peter 1:3-4, Romans 8:11, John 7:38, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Isaiah 55:1
3. Read **Ephesians 2:8-9** and **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**. Discuss the difference between saving grace and sustaining grace.
4. Read **Colossians 1:7-8**. Can you identify a positive mentoring relationship in your life? What made it good? Have you had a negative mentoring relationship in your life? What made it bad? Who have you invited into a mentoring relationship? If you are a mentee, how can the insights gleaned from the stages of mentorship presented in this chapter make you a better mentee? (Orlando Rivera)
Acts 11:19-30, Acts 15:39-41, Titus 1:4, 1 Timothy 1:2
5. Discuss the practical applications from this sermon.