



# COLOSSIANS

## Colossians 1:1-8 // Rooted in Faith, Hope, and Love

*By Andrew Farhat*

### Getting Started

- *Larger LIFEGroups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

### Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- What did the word, “Gospel” mean to you growing up?

### Scripture Study (30 Min)

- Read Colossians 1:1-8
- “Gospel” is the Good News about Jesus which people hear. The “fruit of the Gospel” (1:5-6) is when people positively respond with faith, hope, and love. Love is listed as the first fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23.
- Paul typically gives thanks for the Christian congregation He is writing to. He usually points out virtues he is thankful for in their lives. In this instance, Paul gives thanks for their faith (1:4), hope (1:5), and love (1:4). Have two people read aloud Colossians 1:23 and 2:12. How does Paul use the word, “faith.”
- Have someone read Colossians 1:27? What is “hope” according to Paul?
- Have someone read Colossians 3:12-14? What does love look like for Paul?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13. Why is love the greatest of the three virtues?

- Describe a person you know that lives by faith. What kind of thoughts, words, and behavior do they manifest?
- How is the “hope of glory” (1:27) and the “hope laid up for you in heaven” (1:4) a powerful answer to the problem of suffering in your life?
- How is love typically defined by our culture today? How is the love that Paul and Jesus describe an even higher calling?
- Of the three virtues, which do you need to cultivate in your life right now?
- Jesus says: “The Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask” (Luke 11:13). What would it look for you to ask the Father for His help this week?

## **Group Prayer (15 Min)**

## **Trios (20 Min)**

*Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.*

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
  - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
  - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you’ve encountered it in this week’s Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
  - What’s an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? How can we encourage you?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
  - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How’s your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you’re building and spiritual conversations you’re having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
  - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:  
\_\_\_\_\_.
  - What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
  - How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?