

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people-the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world-just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.

Colossians 1:3-6

These verses present a powerful reflection on gratitude, faith, love, and hope rooted in the gospel. Paul and Timothy begin by expressing continual thanksgiving to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, while praying for the believers in Colossae. This thanksgiving is not based on Paul's own circumstances but on the encouraging news he received about their faith in Christ and their love for all the saints. The foundation of their faith is hope laid up for them in heaven, a hope they had previously heard about through the word of truth-the gospel.

Paul emphasizes that the gospel has not only reached the Colossian church but is actively spreading throughout the world, bearing fruit and increasing in power and influence. This growth is not merely numerical but spiritual, as the grace of God is being understood and lived out in truth among them since the day they first heard and embraced it. The source of this transformation is traced back to Epaphras, a faithful minister of Christ and beloved fellow servant, who personally shared Colossians' love in the Spirit with Paul.

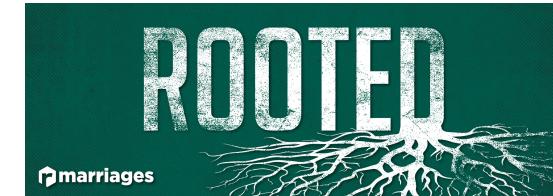
The passage invites believers to reflect on the transformative power of the gospel, which changes lives from the inside out. Faith in Christ, love for fellow believers, and hope in heaven are not isolated virtues but interconnected aspects of a living faith that grows and bears fruit. Paul's own example-praying always for the church despite his imprisonment- demonstrates how genuine faith can inspire gratitude even in hardship.

Ultimately, this passage calls believers to focus on heavenly things, to set their minds on what is above, and to live in light of the risen and glorified Christ, whose life is now hidden with God. The Christian life, therefore, is not defined by earthly pursuits but by a deep, abiding relationship with Christ, whose presence shapes every aspect of life.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Galatians 5:6

STUDY
COMPANION
WEEK TWO



"THE GOSPEL
BEARING FRUIT"

MESSAGE NOTES & VERSES

WHAT STEPS CAN YOU TAKE THIS WEEK TO
APPLY WHAT YOU LEARNED AS A COUPLE?

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

*"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that
in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

1 Corinthians 5:21

NOTES

OUR PRAYERS