

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Check out your notes from this week’s sermon. What stood out?
Were you challenged? Anything you found difficult or disagreed with?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

- How can we be filled with the knowledge of God’s will?
- What does Paul list as features of walking worthy of the Lord in v. 10?
- Paul exhorts us to look to God and his infinite power for the strength we will need. What does that reveal about the nature of “walking worthy of the Lord?”
- Why do we so often feel like we do not have the strength we need?
- How might being filled with the knowledge of his will affect that?
- What does Paul say that this divine strength will allow us to do?
- How does this affect your understanding of his will?
- What is significant about the wording, “the Father, who has qualified you?”
- According to vv. 13 and 14 how did God qualify us to be delivered and transferred into his kingdom?
- Define “transferred” and “transformed” within the context of this study.

TAKEAWAYS

NEVER FORGET WHOSE YOU ARE

Acts 26:16-18; Colossians 1:14

How does time in the Bible - specifically time remembering the gospel - remind us of our true location in Christ?

Read through the differences between a life located only in the world and a life located in Christ:

Located in the World	Located in Christ
Getting Ahead: I need to do whatever it takes to make myself a success at work, in my family, in society, etc.	My hope is secure, laid up in heaven. I can relax my grip on worldly success, knowing there’s no greater success here than to humbly bear fruit that fits my place in heaven.
Reputation: I need to constantly curate my image and earn approval in front of friends, family, colleagues, and anyone else who might be watching.	In Christ, I am perfectly forgiven and redeemed. I already stand qualified before God my Father, enjoying his favor and approval. I can let go of other needs for approval.
Provision: I have needs and desires that make me happy. It’s up to me to find a way for these to get met.	Yes, I should work responsibly, but my Father gives me all I need. And I have a share in the eternal inheritance of the saints. It’s my true treasure that lets me endure worldly shortfalls.
Protection: I need to fend off failure or the appearance of failure, even if this means putting others down, blame shifting, or stretching the truth about my achievements.	God is my King and protector. He has transferred me from the realm of fearful darkness into his Son’s kingdom of light, where it’s safe to be honest and care for others first.

AM I LIVING A LIFE WORTHY OF THE LORD?

Ephesians 4:1; Psalm 139:23-24

God wants us to be saturated with and so moved and motivated by his will that the gospel that transfers us would transform us. Am I transforming into someone who pleases him, does good works, and knows Him more and more?