

"Giving with Thanksgiving and Praise" FBCLA

Colossians 1:3-8 Dr. Scott T. Arnold.

Introduction: *"We Gather Together"* (hymn story)

I. Thanksgiving and Prayer (Colossians 1:3-5)

A. Thanking God in faith and love (3-4) ³ *We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,* ⁴ *because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people —.*

B. Thanking God for the Hope of Salvation (5) ⁵ *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.*

II. Thanksgiving in the Gospel of God's Kingdom.
(Colossians 1:6-8)

A. Bearing Fruit and growing. (6) *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.*

B. Learning and serving together for Christ. (7) ⁷ *You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf,*

C. United in Love through the Holy Spirit (8) ⁸ *and who also told us of your love in the Spirit..*

Conclusion: May we grow in Thanksgiving, praying, serving, learning, and bearing fruit for God's Kingdom through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Gospel of God's truth, grace and love.

Scripture Passage:

³ *We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,* ⁴ *because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people —* ⁵ *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* ⁶ *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.* ⁷ *You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf,* ⁸ *and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.* (Colossians 1:3-8)

Questions:

1. Name something you are grateful for. Share this with someone near you.
2. What are you most thankful for? Share this with someone.
3. Why is giving thanks so important for our souls?
4. Why is giving thanks so important for our communities?