

Kingdom Focus

Colossians 1:1-14

INTRODUCTION

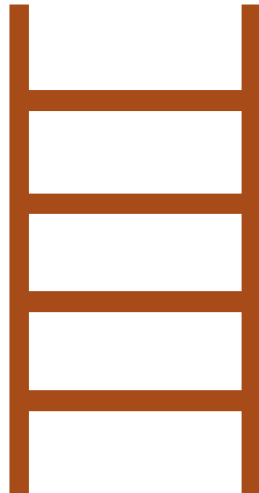
“Time is short. Eternity is long. It is only reasonable that this short life be lived in the light of eternity.”

-C.H. Spurgeon

Are you living for the dot? Or for eternity? *Does your life make sense in light of eternity?*

KINGDOM FOCUS—We will live every day in light of eternity.

The Gospel Ladder



Now, let's go back through this passage and see again, but ask ourselves these questions:

Who is God?

- In this case, we see that God is the King. And He has a Kingdom of Light.
- And a kingdom is not just land and buildings, but more importantly, a people. A HOLY people.

What has God done?

- We see (vs. 12) that God Himself is the One who qualified sinners to become saints.
- And we see (vs. 13a) that He rescued them from the kingdom of darkness.
- Not only that (vs. 14) He redeemed them and forgave them of their sins.
- And finally, we see (vs. 13b) that He has given this Kingdom—this group of people whom He has rescued, redeemed, and forgiven—to the Son He loves (vs. 13).

Who am I?

- **I am qualified** somehow to be in this kingdom (vs. 12)
- **I am rescued** (vs. 13).
- **I am redeemed** (vs. 14a).
- And **I am forgiven** (vs. 14b).

Now... **What do I do?**

Live a Life Worthy of the Calling You Have Received (vs. 10a)

¹⁰*so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way:*

Bear Fruit in Every Good Work (vs. 10b)

...bearing fruit in every good work...

Grow in the Knowledge of God (vs. 10c)

...growing in the knowledge of God...

Receive His Strength to Endure Patiently (vs. 11)

¹¹*being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience...*

Give Joyful Thanks to the Father (vs. 12a)

¹²*and giving joyful thanks to the Father...*

How Will This Happen? (vs. 9)

⁹*For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives...*

Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

1. How does the Gospel Ladder impact you? Which "arrow" tends to be your default?
2. Why is it so important that we embrace the commands/challenges God has given to us only after we understand who He is, what He has done for us in Christ, and who we are in Christ?
3. What areas of your life don't make sense in light of eternity?
4. Spend time praying that God would fill you with deeper wisdom and understanding of who you are in Christ so that you might joyfully pursue what He has called you to do.