



# COLOSSIANS SERIES PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL PLAN

## WEEK 3

*Each week through this series, we are including five personal devotional readings followed by a couple of questions you can think on through the day. Monday is a day to set aside to read through the book of Colossians. The rest of the week we will look at two or three verses to contemplate more deeply and personally. We hope you enjoy digging into this important book over the next 10 weeks, and we pray God will use these short devotional questions to give you deeper insight and that through it, the gospel will be “bearing fruit and increasing” in you daily (Colossians 1:6).*

**Monday Reading:** Read through Colossians in one sitting.

*Devotional Question—What is something new that you picked up from your reading of Colossians this week? How can that thought be an encouragement throughout your day?*

**Tuesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:21-23

*Devotional Questions—Can you remember what it was like when you were “alienated and hostile in mind” with God? What did your life look like and how has it changed?*

*Can you praise God today that He did not leave you there but rather now, in Christ, you are presented holy, blameless, and above reproach?*

**Wednesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:24-26

*Devotional Questions—Have you ever suffered or even been inconvenienced for the sake of the spiritual growth of others and rejoiced in it? What did that look like?*

*Who is a person in your life that you have so much love for and desire to see them grow that you would set your personal comfort aside to see them grow in the faith? Anyone? Why or why not?*

**Thursday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:27

*Devotional Questions—How rich is the mystery of “Christ in you?” What does Paul mean by that statement?*

*How does the reality of “Christ in you” give you hope?*

**Friday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:28-29

*Devotional Questions—What is the motivation for Paul’s discipleship of other Christians?*

*How can “warning” and “teaching” be instrumental in the work of discipleship?*





# COLOSSIANS 1:21-23

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FROM 9/26/21

### SERMON SUMMARY

Having just emphasized that through the redemptive work of Christ all things will be reconciled to God through His blood, Paul reminds the Colossian believers that they were at one time hostile to God. They who at one time were alienated from God have now experienced reconciliation through the work of Jesus. They who once were considered rebels before God now stand pure and clean before Him. This is the position which every believer has before God—we are made righteous by the Son. The evidence of that standing before God is perseverance in the faith when faced with trial, opposition, and temptation. Paul reminds the believers to stand strong and to resist any consideration of returning to the life they once lived apart from God, because life in Him is better.

**Key Passage:** Colossians 1:21-23

*Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the “Grow” section of our study.*

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

**KNOW**—Spend some time finding out how everyone’s week has gone. *The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or “connection” activity or with questions appropriate to your context.*

*What is one way God is challenging you to trust Him this week?*

*What are some ways you have experienced God answering your prayers lately?*

*Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?*

**GROW**—Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

*What does Paul mean when he says that these believers were once “alienated and hostile in mind?” Hostile to what or whom?*

*How was that place of hostility with God particularly true for the non-Jews in the community?*

*Were the Jewish Christians in the church any less hostile toward God before faith in Christ?*

*How does this alienation and hostility relate to our actions? What kind of “evil deeds” do people do when alienated from God?*

*What does it mean to be “reconciled” to God? Is that something that happened already or is it in process and becoming true? What does the text say?*

*How did Jesus make this reconciliation possible (v. 22)?*

*Paul says Jesus “present[s] you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him.” Before whom?*

*How long does it take Jesus to be able to present a saved person as “holy and blameless” before God? Does Romans 5:1 give any insight?*

*Does verse 23 give conditions for salvation? How do you come to that conclusion?*

*What is that “hope of the gospel” to which we are all to hold?*

**GO**—Talk through ways you can put what you’ve learned into practice.

*How should the reconciliation between us and God result in good deeds after salvation?*

*How does it make you feel to know that you are made holy and blameless and above reproach in Christ when you believe? Do you know anyone else who needs to hear your story?*

