Journey Thru Colossians, Week 1 Colossians 1:1-8 "It's all God" September 24, 2023

I Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colossae. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1:1-8

Paul traced the stages of the spiritual experience of the Colossian believers:¹

They <u>heard</u> the Gospel (vs. 5-7)

It centers on a person, one person – <u>Jesus</u> Christ (no philosophy or religious system).

As C.S. Lewis is famous for saying, "Jesus is either: Liar, Lunatic or Lord."

It (Gospel) is the "Word of Truth". (v 5) John 8:44 and 14:6

Every person who has ever lived has had faith in something and or someone(s).

It is the message of God's Grace. (v 6)

It is for the whole world. (v 6)

God is not willing for any to perish. All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved.

They believed in Jesus Christ. (v 4)

They were <u>disciples</u>. (v 7)

They became faithful in Christ. (vs. 6 and 8)

Prayer Focus:

Have I heard the Gospel?
Have I trusted in the Gospel, that is in Jesus?
Am I being discipled? Am I discipling?
Am I faithfully walking in light of the Gospel?

¹ Portion taken from Warren Wiersbe