

THE GOSPEL

COLOSSIANS 1:5b-8

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: “The main things are the plain things and the plain things are the main things.” David Veerman. In order to battle the heretics, Paul continues to emphasize the fundamentals.

IS UNIVERSAL. The truth of the gospel is the same in all of the world. Since the gospel proclaims that salvation is only by trusting in Jesus, all of God’s children come to Him the same way—by faith in Him. (**Colossians 1:5b, 6, Romans 3:21-24, fn 3:23, John 3:16, fn 3:16[1st], I Corinthians 15:1-13, fn 15:13-18, Romans 10:8-13, fn 10:8-12, John 14:6, fn 14:5, 6**) *In as few words as possible, how would you explain the gospel to a lost person?*

IS FRUITFUL AND GROWING. “The gospel produces fruit both in the internal transformation of individuals and also in the external growth of the church. The two concepts are interrelated. The spiritual growth of individuals will lead to new converts being won to Christ.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Colossians and Philemon, p. 22. (**Colossians 1:6, fn 1:6, fn 1:8, I Peter 2:1-3, fn 2:2, 3, John 15:16, fn 15:16, Colossians 1:22, 23, Philemon 6, NIV, ESV, II Timothy 4:5**) *How is Jesus growing the gospel in you and by you?*

IS UNDERSTOOD BY GRACE. Grace is Christ’s power given on behalf of those who in humility receive it. Our proof of grace is seeing our Lord using all our situations, even all our sin problems, to transform us into the image of Jesus Christ. (**Colossians 1:5,6, II Corinthians 12:7-12, fn 12:9, James 4:4-10, fn 4:4-6, Romans 5:20, 21, fn 5:20, Hebrews 12:5-11, fn 12:5-11**) *If you are faced with a big problem, even a sin problem, how could God by His grace use it to transform you?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.