

Connect

What does Spiritual look like?

Verses - Colossians 1:3-8 (NKJV)

3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; 5 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, 6 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; 7 as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, 8 who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

Study

1. What was Paul praying about? How often? Why would Paul think to communicate this to the Colossians? What effect do you think it had?

2. What is the "triad" that Paul mentions? What is the connection of these words and our faith? Why are they significant? (Hebrews 11:1; Ephesians 6:16; 1 Corinthians 13:6-7; Romans 15:4; Romans 8:24-25)

3. Paul mentions that the gospel message is "in all the world." What did he mean by this? How does this show his faith in the prophecies of the Bible? (ex: Isaiah 11:1-9)

DISCUSS

Do you think it is a good idea to tell people you are praying for them? Do you think telling details about your prayer for them is important? Why or why not? When can telling others you are praying for others "go the wrong way?" How can we prevent that from happening?

APPLY

How did Jesus teach and even demonstrate spirituality? How about His disciples? How can we do likewise?

Share

How have you experienced the transformative power of the gospel, as described in Colossians 1:3-8, in your own life as a believer in Jesus? If you have witnessed it in others, you could share your experience witnessing that change in them as well.

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

Name and pray for a person you can share the hope with. Make a decision to do that soon in 2024. Pray the Lord will make it clear to you how you can love someone you have not thought of this year.