

A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:

Text for the Week: Message for the Week: Theme for the Week: Extreme Discipleship: Living into Our Mission

Colossians 1:9-14

"Back to Basics"

Mature believers embrace the basics

Week 2

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is most important in your life?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read <u>Colossians 1:9-14</u> out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

Who do you know who radiates Christ?

As a follower of Jesus, how are you going about becoming more and more like Him? What is your strategy / gameplan?

What mark of maturity (giving thanks, sharing in the inheritance of the saints, rescue from the dominion of darkness, redemption/forgiveness of sins, the kingdom of the Son he loves) comes the easiest? What mark is the most difficult?

If gratitude is what we feel and thanksgiving is what we do, how can we grow our sense of gratitude and better express our thanksgiving?

When you pray for others, what do you typically pray for them? How does this compare with what Paul prayed for the church in Colossae in Colossians 1:9-14?

Do you know what matriculation means? 🗐

"Try It!"

Read through the book of Colossians once a week during this series. Consider using different translations.

Memorize Colossians 3:17:

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you.

As Paul does, offer prayers of thanksgiving and praise for friends and family by name.

Father, fill us with the knowledge of your will. Grant us spiritual wisdom and understanding so that we might live a life that is pleasing to you. Make us fruitful, grateful, and thankful, and help us to know you more and more as we live in your infinite power and strength. In the name of the exalted Christ, Amen.

Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Praying for Others

During the month of September, pray every day for five (one for every finger on your hand) of your neighbors and five of your coworkers/classmates by name. Pray each day for them that...

- God would fill them with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives
- They might live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way
- They might grow in the knowledge of God and be strengthened by the Holy Spirit

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