

Read Colossians 1:13-29

Share a thought with the group that stands out to you from these verses.

After you open with prayer, read the passage and then open up the discussion allowing people to share what God gives them.

1. Verses 15-20 reveal some amazing truth about who Jesus Christ really is. List the things you discover about Jesus from these verses.

Go around the room and see what people can pick out. I have shared some of my own observations:

Jesus is the image of the unseen God. Jesus is ruler over all creation. Jesus is the creator of all things including heaven and earth. It includes angels and the spiritual realm as well as it says seen and unseen. All created things exist for Jesus, all things are for His purpose. He holds everything together therefore He is all powerful. He alone is the head of the Church. Begin the firstborn among the dead reminds me that he was the first to overcome sin and death and deliver us to eternal life. He is supreme over everything. God is pleased to have His fullness dwell in Christ. God used Jesus to reconcile the world to Himself. And by His blood, we have peace with God.

2. What is the scope and the significance of the blood of Jesus Christ as stated in verse 20?

Verse 20 says by His blood he reconciled "ALL" things in earth and heaven. The sacrifice of Jesus has no limits and the significance is that it has reconciled all things to God.

3. How does God see us in Jesus Christ according to verse 22? How does that truth affect your thoughts?

Without blemish and free of accusation. The blood of Jesus covers up all our sins and deficiencies. When God looks upon us, He sees the perfection of Jesus. We are holy in the sight of God.

Ask the second part of this question to see how people respond. For me, it takes away the pressure and should bring me peace. If God says I am holy then I should be led to act holy and grateful for Jesus. I should be motivated to be who Jesus has made me to be.

4. Read verse 24 again. What do you think Paul is trying to say?

Ask the question to see what they think this passage is about.

I think Paul is saying that even though he has suffered much, he rejoices because God has used him to touch the lives of the Gentiles and redeem them to himself. Paul is saying, any suffering is worth doing the work of God and seeing God at work, Amen!

In verses 25 through 27, Paul discloses that God has chosen Him to reveal Christ to the Gentiles and in verse 28 he reveals the purpose, to be presented perfect in Christ. Finally in verse 29, Paul explains what all of us must remember, it is Christ powerfully working in us that completes the task.

5. Pondering that thought and those words, how should you approach the calling you have received from Christ? What should you do first?

Ask people to share thoughts.

One thing from this is that I should be obedient and thankful that God is using me to reach those He has His heart set on saving. I should find joy in watching others come into a relationship with God. And I should remember it is Christ at work with His power in me. I don't need to depend upon myself. I need to pray and draw near to God and let Him work in and through me.

This week's memory verse: Colossians 1:13-14

"For He (the Father) has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Assignment: This week's memory verse gives a clear message that it was the pursuit of the Father to rescue us sin and it was the sacrifice of the Son by which we are forgiven and saved.

Take a moment to ask the Holy Spirit in leading you as you write a prayer of Thanksgiving to God the Father for the desire to rescue you even when you were a sinner and to God the Son for His willing sacrifice for your salvation.