

Bringing truth to LIFE-**Wisdom for your life this week.**

When people who have been touched with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, gather together in community, it is unlike any other club, or group that you've ever experienced. God is present. Since we were created in God's image, our lives thrive in the communities where He is present.

In this last section of the lesson we will put some appropriate action to the truths God revealed to us in this passage of scripture.

- a. List some of the things that you look for in selecting a church you would like to attend. Are you looking for the things Paul was looking for?
- b. The Colossian Church was not perfect. Yet, Paul was thankful when he prayed for its people. Is your current temperament about your church producing more grumbling or more gratitude? Why?

List here some evidence where you can see God's fingerprints in the life of First Christian Church. Also identify some of the people God used to leave His fingerprints in your life.

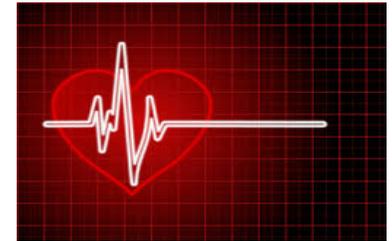
- Faith in Jesus
- Love for all God's people
- Hope for God's promise
- Bearing fruit
- Changed lives

- c. Share with your group one way you want to be a "co-worker" in what God is doing at this church.

Pray for Each Other *"Lord, we want people to notice your presence in the hope, love and faith that is bearing fruit and growing in this church. I am ready for you to use me to leave your fingerprints in the lives of others."*

**LIFE Group Sermon Study**

Week of 11/25/18



Big Idea: If our guide for our view of money is from the world... our finances will get out of control so fast ... especially heading into the Christmas season. The good news is we can learn how to get out of financial bondage. Unleashed will help us avoid common financial pitfalls, experience financial freedom, and embrace a life of joyful generosity.

SIGN OF LIFE - Fingerprints

A stand-alone sermon

God is in this place!

Colossians 1:3-8

Colossians 1:1-8 ¹ *"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Timothy. ² We are writing to God's holy people in the city of Colosse, who are faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. May God our Father give you grace and peace.*

³ *We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, ⁵ which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.*

⁶ *This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world, It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day your first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. ⁷ You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker. He is Christ's faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. ⁸ He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you."* (NLT)

Capture our Attention-

- a. You can't avoid them. They are everywhere you have been. Where do fingerprints most annoy you?

- b. Share your Take-A-Way from last Sunday's sermon. What insight did God use to capture your attention? How are you trying to put that insight into practice in your daily life?

Enlighten our Mind- Study the Word of God.

1. What word, phrase or sentence in the scripture text most captures your attention?

Why do you think God drew your attention to this section of the scripture?

2. What do you learn about God in the in Colossians 1:1 and 2?

How does God relate to people according to these verses?

Which of these descriptions do you believe God would apply to you? Which description are you uncomfortable with being applied as a description of your own life? Why do you feel this way?

3. You can't have a church without people. A Church is people. What attitude and action toward this group of believers are represented in Colossians 1:3?

What elements and people are you most thankful for about your Church family?

4. Describe one way that each of the five fingerprints might have been noticeable in a church family?

Faith in Christ Jesus.

Love for all of God's people.

Hope of what God has reserved for you.

Bearing fruit.

Changing lives.

5. What do you learn about Epaphras (sounds like "e-paf-rus") from verses 7-8 (see also what chapter 4:12-13 says about him)?

Who has been a person like Epaphras in your life?