

The Letter of St. Paul to the COLOSSIANS

grace

this changes everything

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING • Part 1 • April 16-17, 2016 • #ThisChangesEverything

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 you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. (Colossians 1:6)

So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgiven our sins. (Colossians 1:9–14)

How does someone get right with God?

- ✓ It's not about _____
- ✓ It's about _____

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else began, and he holds all creation together. (Colossians 1:15-17)

- ✓ It's not about _____
- ✓ It's about _____

...through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. (Colossians 1:20–22a)

- ✓ It's not about _____
- ✓ It's about _____

As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. (Colossians 1:22b)

We love...because he loved us first. (1 John 4:19)

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8, NLT)

- ✓ It's not about _____
- ✓ It's about _____

If you love me, you will obey what I command. (John 14:15)

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

1. Get ahold of _____

But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. (Colossians 1:23)

For this is the secret: Christ lives in you and this is your assurance. (Colossians 1:27)

2. Get rid of _____

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1–2, NIV)

3. Get to _____

The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them. (John 4:21, NIV)

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So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgiven our sins. (Colossians 1:9-14)

How does someone get right with God?

- ✓ It's not about who I am.
- ✓ It's about who God is.

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else began, and he holds all creation together. (Colossians 1:15-17)

- ✓ It's not about what I do.
- ✓ It's about what Jesus has already done.

...through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. (Colossians 1:20-22a)

- ✓ It's not about hoping for God's approval.
- ✓ It's about knowing God's love.

As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. (Colossians 1:22b)

We love...because he loved us first. (1 John 4:19)

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8, NLT)

- ✓ It's not about trying harder.
- ✓ It's about being in love.

If you love me, you will obey what I command. (John 14:15)

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

1. Get a hold of the Good News.

But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. (Colossians 1:23)

For this is the secret: Christ lives in you and this is your assurance. (Colossians 1:27)

2. Get rid of condemnation.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2, NIV)

3. Get to know Jesus more everyday.

The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them. (John 4:21, NIV)

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