



## Welcome + Opening Prayer

### Colossians 1:1–8, 28–29

See passage printed on the back of this page.

#### THEMATIC OVERVIEW

Where do you locate your hope and how do you know?

### Explore + Apply

1. What do you think Paul means that proclaiming *the gospel* (v. 5) is equated with proclaiming *Him* (v. 28)? What does it mean to you that *the gospel* or good news of Christianity is not merely an idea or set of beliefs, but *Him*, Jesus, a person?
2. How do you tend to answer: “I have Jesus, but also I need \_\_\_\_\_”?  
*Assurance my career is secure? Relief from political tension? Clarity about beliefs I struggle with?*
3. In your life, what are some areas of desperation or longing in which Jesus could be your go-to person? How is Jesus more than a moral teacher, but your *hope* in these situations?

*Trusting Jesus for the first time and for ongoing growth has the same pattern: The burden of making you perfect rests on Jesus Christ now. He gladly takes this burden upon Himself.*

### Pray

- Reflect on how Paul describes the gospel in v. 28, not simply as some ideas, or beliefs, but as a person. Jesus famously said “I am the way.” Give thanks that God offers us the gift of Himself.
- Pray and listen: in your life, what are areas of desperation or longing in which Jesus could be more than a moral teacher— your *hope*?
- Pray “Thy Kingdom come” here in West Seattle, in the U.S. and around the world, specifically that more and more people would experience the freedom God brings as He gladly accept the burden of perfecting and proving us upon Himself because He loves us, imperfect as we are now.

*Home Groups are a vital part of shared life and growth in Christ. Here, we build community, deepen relationships, and discover and live the Christian life together.*

#### PRAYER GUIDELINES

*In prayer, we ask God to transform us and the world around us with His grace.*

#### GROUP SCHEDULE - FALL

ASC Christmas Party - Dec 16  
Sun 7-9:390p @ Dakota Place

#### GROUP SCHEDULE - SPRING

HG welcome week - Jan 20  
HG guides begins - Jan 27

## **Colossians 1:1–8, 28–29**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup> since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, <sup>6</sup> which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing— as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, <sup>7</sup> just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf <sup>8</sup> and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup> For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.