

Weekly Lesson Theme: Being An Authentic Church

Lesson Scriptures: Colossians 1:9-14, 21-29

Key Lesson Theme: "Growing In Christ"

Today's Lesson: Friday, April 26

Podcast Version: [Soundcloud](#), [iTunes](#), or [Spotify](#)

Colossians 1:9-14, 21-29

9 For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding,

10 so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God,

11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully

12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.

13 He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.

14 In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

21 Once you were alienated and hostile in your minds as expressed in your evil actions.

22 But now he has reconciled you by his physical body through his death, to present you holy, faultless, and blameless before him —

23 if indeed you remain grounded and steadfast in the faith and are not shifted away from the hope of the gospel that you heard. This gospel has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and I, Paul, have become a servant of it.

24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for you, and I am completing in my flesh what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for his body, that is, the church.

25 I have become its servant, according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,

26 the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.

27 God wanted to make known among the Gentiles the glorious wealth of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

28 We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

29 I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Live It Out

Speaking of spiritual birth and maturing in faith, the late Elton Trueblood wrote: "The miracle is the work of God Almighty, but poor creatures like ourselves may be used of God to provide some of the conditions of the new life that must emerge."⁵ Such is why believers, like Paul, you, and me, should engage and help one another grow and mature in Christ. It is our calling in partnership with the Lord Christ in making disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19). The church cannot be the church the Lord expects unless we are leading people to know the deep truths of the gospel, understand how to apply them to life, and learn the meaning of being mature in Christ.

Digging Deeper

How are you helping someone grow in godly character and spiritual fruitfulness?

What are some things you do for yourself to be more firmly grounded in Christ?

What evidence in your life points to a growing maturity in Christ?

Until next week Saints.....
Every day is Sunday

