



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 08/11/2019
DISCUSSION DATE: 08/18/2019
TEXT: COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

“In a nutshell, abiding in Christ means allowing His Word to fill our minds, direct our wills, and transform our affections.” – Sinclair Ferguson

I. PRAYING TO BECOME A CHURCH THAT BEARS MUCH FRUIT

A. In Order To Bear Much Fruit, We Must Learn To PRAY For One Another Persistently, v. 9a.

B. In Order To Bear Much Fruit, We Must Persistently ASK For The Right Thing, v. 9b.

C. In Order To Bear Much Fruit, We Must Persistently Live For The Right Purpose, v 10.

Conclusion:

What kind of fruit can we anticipate? Look at v.v. 10-14

ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO APPLY HIS WORD IN OUR DAILY LIVES

What does God want us to desire/value?	What does God want us to know?	What does God want us to do?
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1. **Read John 15:5, 8; 1 Corinthians 13:2.** Who can do nothing and amounts to nothing? **Read 1 John 4:7-8:** How does this explain the problem? According to Ferguson's definition of abiding, what is our responsibility? What does this require from us?
2. **Read Colossians 1:3-5.** When did Paul start praying for the people in Colossae? Why is the gospel rightly described here as the "word of truth?" Where are people looking for truth or believing that they have found it? Is there another authoritative source of truth that we can trust like the Bible?
3. **Read Colossians 1:6-8.** What does the gospel do when it "comes" to a new area? What did Epaphras do when he arrived after experiencing the grace of God in salvation? How does this match with Acts 1:8? What does God want us to do with His gospel and what should we expect?
4. **Read Colossians 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18.** How did Paul describe his prayer life? Why did Paul not cease to pray for the believers in Colossae? What does it mean for our prayer lives to be marked by unceasing prayer? How do we grow in our practice of praying gospel driven prayers? What is a gospel driven prayer?
5. **Read Colossians 1:9; 1 John 5:14-15.** What do we know about praying according to God's will? How do we learn to pray this way? What does it mean to be filled with the knowledge of God's will?
6. **Read Psalm 143:10; Romans 12:2.** How do we learn God's will? What does the Psalmist teach to pray concerning God's will? Why do we need to pray this way? What does it mean that God's will is perfect, and where is His will now perfectly being done? Why do we struggle with wanting our wills to be done? What must happen in order for us to rightly value God's will?
7. **Read Ephesians 5:15-17. Colossian 1:9.** What does it mean to walk circumspectly and why it is so important to do so? What does a wise man understand? Where do Spiritual wisdom and understanding come from? Why do we struggle to spend consistent and quality time in the Word? Can our minds be filled with the knowledge of God without much time in the Word?
8. **Read Colossians 1:10; Ephesians 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12.** What purpose dominated Paul's life and admonitions to the church? Define a worthy walk. What does it look like when we are living worthy of God's great love?
9. **Read Colossians 1:18.** How do we give the Lord preeminence in all things? How can a person bring shame upon his family's name? How can we keep from bringing shame upon the cause of Christ?
10. **Read Colossians 1:10-14.** What kind of fruit can we expect? Will we commit ourselves to praying persistently for this one thing? Will we commit to living with this one purpose in mind?