

Jesus Your Future (Colossians 1:3-14)

Jesus Your Everything – Part 1
Life Church St. Louis – August 4, 2013
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

John 5:39-40 (NIV) You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

1. Pray with _____

Colossians 1:3 (NIV) We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,

A. Live with _____ and _____

Colossians 1:4 (NIV) because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints--

B. Be motivated by future _____

Colossians 1:5 (NIV) the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you.

C. Bear fruit and _____

Colossians 1:6 (NIV) All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth.

2. Pray with _____

Colossians 1:9a (NIV) For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God ...

A. Understand God's _____

Colossians 1:9b (NIV) ... and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.

B. Live _____ of Jesus

Colossians 1:10a (NIV) And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way ...

- **Do _____ for Jesus**

Colossians 1:10b (NIV) ...bearing fruit in every good work ...

- **Grow in _____ Jesus**

Colossians 1:10c (NIV) ...growing in the knowledge of God,

- **Be _____ in Jesus' power**

Colossians 1:11 (NIV) being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,

C. Give _____ to God

- **For your kingdom _____**

Colossians 1:12 (NIV) and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

- **For being _____ by Jesus**

Colossians 1:13-14 (NIV) For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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Intro. Why do you think it is much more accepted to speak of God, rather than Jesus in today's society?

What is the relationship between God's Word and Jesus Christ in regard to eternal life (John 5:39-40)?

What would be the characteristics of a person for whom Jesus was their everything (Colossians 3:11b)?

- 1A. Why is thanksgiving a good way to begin prayer (Colossians 1:3)?
- 1B. Describe the two characteristics of every true believer that you can thank God for (Colossians 1:4, 1 John 3:14).
- 1C. In what ways does our heavenly hope motivate our lives to live for Jesus (Colossians 1:5)?
- 1D. How does the gospel bear fruit and grow in a person's life (Colossians 1:6)?

- 1E. What positive effects does praying for others (intercession) have on their lives and your life?
- 2A. Why is knowing God's will the first key to moving forward for every person and situation (Colossians 1:9)?
- 2B. Explain what is meant by the phrase "living a life worthy of the Lord Jesus" (Colossians 1:10a).
- 2C. What are good works through which a believer can bear fruit (Colossians 1:10b)?
- 2D. In what ways can you grow in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10c)?
- 2E. Why do believers need more of God's power in their lives (Colossians 1:11)?
- 2F. Is your life characterized by joyful thanksgiving (Colossians 1:12)? Why or why not?
- 2G. How can Colossians 1:13-14 motivate you to intercede for those who don't yet know Jesus?