

SERMON OUTLINE Colossians 1:3-8

The Density of the Gospel in Colossians

INTRODUCTION

GOSPEL DENSITY

Jesus and the Gospel Are Inseparable (vs.3, 4, 7)

The Good News of the Gospel Is Ours through Faith in Jesus Christ (v.4)

Faith in the Gospel Always Bears Fruit (v.4, 6).

The Gospel Is Entirely Owing to the Grace of God (v.6)

The Gospel Is the Word of Truth (v.5, 6)

The Gospel Is Good News for the Whole World (v.6).

The Gospel Cannot Be Kept to Ourselves (v.7)

The Gospel Is the Good News that We Have a Certain Hope Laid Up for Us in Heaven (v.5)

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this sermon is that the gospel is good news for every aspect of our lives forever. Christ is indeed above all and in all. And that is densely packed into these few verses, even as it is densely packed in all of Colossians. The main takeaway, then, is to learn to live more fully in light of the reality of the gospel.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. If an observer were to follow you around undetected for a full week, 24/7, what would they likely conclude is the most driving force in your life? What motivates you? What primarily shapes your decisions? What is your main frame of reference in life?
3. How often does some specific aspect of the gospel drive your choices?
4. In what area of your life does the gospel have the least impact/are you least looking through the gospel lens?
5. Which of the nine gospel expressions in our passage stands out the most and why? Which are you living most in light of?
6. How do you define "faith"? How does your definition compare to the non-Christians in your life?
7. Why is it important to be clear on the fact that faith is the conduit for God's saving grace?
8. Had you ever considered that faith is the conduct for forgiveness-grace and sanctifying-grace?
9. Have you ever met someone who believes the claims of Christianity to be myth or lies? What can you do about that?
10. How aware are you of how the gospel is being received around the world? Why would that be important?
11. How motivated are you to share the gospel? How often do you share it? Why not more?
12. How motivated are you by the gospel-hope that is laid up for you in heaven?
13. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

14. Read straight through the entire book of Colossians.
15. Begin memorizing Colossians 1:15-20.
16. Begin praying for three people you'd like to see trust in Jesus and three people you'd like to see mature in Jesus.
17. Find a way to get more plugged in at Grace Church and one way to engage more fully in gospel ministry.
18. Find one way to cultivate a greater understanding of the gospel and its implications for a specific aspect of your life.
19. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
20. Pick one specific thing you mean to do differently, with the Spirit's help, as a result of the things you heard in this text/sermon.

PRAYER POINTS

21. Adoration. Praise God that He is Triune in nature. Praise God that He is all and in all. Praise God that He is eternal, gracious, merciful, joyful, and generous. Praise God that He is personal and loving. Praise God that He is truth and justice.
22. Confess. Confess any areas of your life that are not lived in light of the gospel. Confess faithlessness and doubt. Confess a lack of evangelistic and/or ministry engagement. Confess indifference to the well-being of others.
23. Thanksgiving. Thank God for the density of the gospel in Colossians. Thank God for Jesus. Thank God for laying up hope in heaven for all who trust in Jesus. Thank God for the fruit that He is bearing in our church, country, and around the world.
24. Supplication. Ask God to make our church more faithful to Him. Ask God to save three specific people. Ask God to strengthen us as a praying church. Ask God to bear a specific fruit in your life this week. Ask God to give you a global view.