

Colossians 1:1-14 Discussion Questions

- Ben opened this passage by reflecting on the effects of light. What are the tangible effects of light? How does the light of the gospel reflect those same realities in a believer's life?
- Ben contrasted "resume virtues" with "eulogy virtues." How would you define each, and why does the gospel prioritize one over the other?
- How does the grace of God transform our inner life ("who we are") more than our outward image ("how we appear")? Where do you see this tension in your own life?
- Ben said that worldly success is not proof that God has "won" in someone's life. Why is that? According to this text, what does God's true victory actually look like?
 - When was the moment God got a decisive victory in your life? What shifted in your desires or priorities?
- What are your hopes and ambitions for your kids, future kids, or close friends? How does God's "victory" factor into those hopes?
 - How would you evaluate a relationship if that person gained success, comfort, and recognition - but not Christ? What does that reveal about your values?
 - What would it practically look like to align our desires for others with God's purposes for them?
- Paul says our love as believers flows from our shared hope (v. 4-5). How does a shared future in Christ deepen our relationships?
- Paul says God has "qualified" us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light (v. 12). In what ways were we previously unqualified?
 - How does the gospel give us the "credentials" for our inheritance?

- How has the light of the gospel noticeably changed you in the last month? The last year? Decade?
- Ben described the Christian in v. 11 as “a person with high resilience without emotional collapse.” How does Christ’s finished work give us that kind of strength?
 - What is the relationship between God’s power and our effort? How do we avoid passivity on one hand and self-reliance on the other?
- What is the mark of someone who has been transferred from the domain of darkness into the kingdom of light? What is the most important thing about such a person?
- What does it actually mean, in daily life, to “walk in the light” and be filled with the Spirit? How can we get a greater measure of the Spirit?