

Colossians 1:6-11

LeRoy Eims

I. Introduction. (Exodus 17:11)

II. The Colossians not only heard the gospel, but they came to know it understanding God's grace.

A. Flesh and blood cannot reveal the gospel - it must be revealed by the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 16:16-17)

B. It is important to understand this because a person's receiving Christ is not a work of man.

C. Keys to witnessing.

1. Pray for an opportunity to witness. (Colossians 4:4) Pray that the Spirit of God would convict that person of their sin. (1 Timothy 2:1-8)

2. Use your Bible. (1 Peter 1:21, John 15:26-27)

3. There must be a witness by your life and your lips.

III. What Paul prayed for the Colossians. (Colossians 1:9)

A. He prayed that they might know the Lord's will and do it and that they might please the Lord

B. He prayed that this would result in:

1. Fruit bearing (Romans 15:18, John 15:4-5)

a. The key to a fruitful life is having fellowship with Jesus, walking close to Him, and maintaining a pure life.

2. Growing stronger spiritually

a. God is looking for a clean life. (2 Timothy 2:20, Acts 20:32)

b. You never outgrow your need for spiritual growth.

3. Manifesting a joyful heart in the midst of trials.

a. Only a joyful heart will help you through the trials.

b. We need trials - they produce perseverance and character.

c. God is not so much interested in our comfort as our maturity. (Colossians 1:28-29)

IV. Conclusion. (Acts 14:19, 2 Timothy 3:10)

Application questions

1. What is the essential element in witnessing? How does this release a burden from the one witnessing?

2. How can we be an effective witness once the essential element is met?

3. What does the Scripture teach about the purpose of trials in the believer's life? Explain.
