

***Following Jesus in a Confused Culture:
Means Knowing Who I Am
Colossians 1:1-14 (pg 840)***

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An Overview of the Book of Colossians:

- *Theme:* The P r e e m i n e n c e of Christ
- *Topics:*
 - The S u p r e m a c y of Christ: D o c t r i n e (chapters 1-2)
 - Our S u b m i s s i o n to Christ: P r a c t i c e (chapters 3-4)
 - W r o n g doctrine always leads to w r o n g living.
- *Issue:* To c o r r e c t the c o n f u s i o n created by the heresies of false teachers among the Colossian church
- *Author/Date:* P a u l in A.D. 60-61

I can be t h a n k f u l for w h o I am (1:1-8)

I am:

- made *holy* = s e t a p a r t to God, *consecrated*
- part of God's f a m i l y

God has *transformed* me through:

- F a i t h in His Son (v 4a)
- L o v e of others (v 4b)
- H o p e for the future (v 5)
- The i n v e s t m e n t of others in me (v 7-8)

I can be p r a y i n g for what I can b e c o m e (1:9-14)

I can a s k God...

- To u n d e r s t a n d His will (v 9)
- For the p o w e r to d o His will (v 10)
 - To be spiritually p r o d u c t i v e (v 10b)
 - To be spiritually s t r o n g (v 11)
 - To be g r a t e f u l for what He h a s d o n e (v 12-14)

To consider....

Who is my "Epaphras" (discipler)? Who am I discipling or teaching?

Is prayer a regular part of my life? If not, why not? What areas that Paul prays for can I pray become part of my life? For others?