



## **A Journey Through Colossians** **Week 1 – Introduction and Background**

### **1. Goals, Purpose, and Format of Series**

- An in-depth book study (Why Colossians?)
- Expand upon major doctrinal issues (apply to Lion & Lamb needs)
- Identify and use Bible study principles, tools, and techniques
- Follow a consistent format in each lesson:

### **2. Using Principles of Biblical Hermeneutics to Interpret the Bible**

(See page 11 in booklet)

### **3. Bible Study Tools**

(See page 13 in booklet)

### **4. Word Study Techniques**

- Identify key word
- Use online resources
- Use Bible dictionaries
- Go back to original Hebrew or Greek
- Identify other times word was used in Bible
- Compare historical with modern meaning

Key words in Colossians \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **5. Avoiding Common Interpretive Errors**

(See page 12 in booklet)

### **6. Group Exercise #1 – Using Bible Study Tools**

My favorite tools \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? How are they helpful? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **7. The City of Colossae** (see maps on page 5)

- Location – Asia (present day Turkey)
- Setting – mountainous, along Lycus River
- Archaeological Study – little information, impacted by volcanic activity
- Near other cities – Laodicea, Philadelphia, Hierapolis

## 8. Background on the Book of Colossians

- Church at Colossae - founded by Epaphrus , disciple of Paul; “faithful minister of Christ”  
How do we know this? \_\_\_\_\_  
Verse? \_\_\_\_\_
- Author – Apostle Paul
- Genre – Epistle/letter to church
- Date written – 60-62 A.D.  
Evidence? \_\_\_\_\_
- Written from? Prison in Rome (some say in Ephesus earlier)  
Evidence? \_\_\_\_\_  
Verses? \_\_\_\_\_
- Delivered by? Tychicus – “dear brother” and “faithful servant,” accompanied Paul on his third missionary journey  
How do we know this? \_\_\_\_\_  
Verse? \_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Purpose of Paul’s Letter to Colossians

*To encourage the local church and address dangerous heresy and pagan practices that were threatening the church including:*

- Deity/supremacy/sufficiency of Christ were not being properly taught
- Confusion regarding the meaning of the new identity of believers “in Christ”
- Ceremonial rituals (Jewish and pagan) which were being encouraged
- Practice of angel worship
- Human wisdom and philosophy were taking the place of godly wisdom

## 10. Group Exercise #2 – Hypothetical Scenario: How to address false teaching in your former church

What should you know, if anything? \_\_\_\_\_

What would you do? \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Application and Wrap-Up

### Value of Colossians – It affirms the proper view of Christ Jesus

“Your view of Jesus Christ will impact every area of your life. . . Because Jesus is Lord over all, the life of the Christian is a life of submission to Jesus. . . Our faith in Jesus Christ should transform our relationships and every area of our lives.”

**Chuck Swindoll**

## 12. Going Forward

- Organize your Bible study tools
  - Establish online bookmarks and favorites; identify apps
  - In coming week I will use the following Bible study tools and techniques
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