

Discussion Questions: Col 1:9-14

1. In this passage Paul returns to his prayer for the Christians at Colossae. What is his specific request? What does he ask God to give them and for what reason?
2. Clearly, this kind of spiritual wisdom and knowledge is something that only God can give. But in Scripture we are also commanded to seek wisdom, knowledge and understanding (e.g. Prov 2:1-14). How do we seek them?
3. In vv. 10-12 Paul goes on to describe what it looks like to walk in a manner that pleases the Lord. He lists four things. What are they? Which of these are most present and which are most absent in your life right now?
4. How has God "qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints" (v. 12)? What is the inheritance he is talking about? (Check out Eph 1.)
5. "Dominion" and "kingdom" are power words. They refer to a realm or sphere that is under the authority of a ruler. In this case, one is ruled by "darkness" and the other "the beloved Son". If you are a Christian, you belong to the Son, but you used to live in darkness. How would you describe the differences between citizenship under the domain of darkness and then citizenship in the kingdom of the Son? What is a distinct and clear difference in your experience for you between then and now?
6. Even though God has made you a citizen of His kingdom, is it possible to still submit to the rule of darkness? (If there is disagreement see Rom 6:12-14.) If God has been so gracious to us to "qualify" us for the incredible inheritance that we have in Christ, and if we remember how bad it is to live under the rule of darkness, why are we tempted to go back?
7. This passage reminds us that God has "qualified the inheritance in the saints," "delivered" us and "transferred" us into His kingdom. We are co-heirs with Christ, made holy by His blood, and citizens of the heavenly kingdom. Where are you struggling to live out this new identity? Where are you letting the "darkness" define and influence you?