



Bible Study Notes

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Lesson 2 Teacher: Beth Seifert

"The Gospel of Hope"

Colossians 1:1-8, Ephesians 1:15-16, 1:18, 2:12, 4:4

- 1. What evidence do we have that it was really Paul who wrote to these people? Why is that important?
- 2. What evidence is there that the people in Colossae were actually saved?
- 3. Be honest with yourself here: do you wait for people to ask you before you share the saving Gospel with them? If you do, why do you wait? How frequently are you actually sharing the Gospel with those who need to hear it? (Even yourself...we need to hear the Gospel all the time, too.) In light of *those* answers, how much would you say the Gospel is actually worth to you? (If that steps on your toes, take that back to God in prayer, and repentance. Ask Him to help you to value the gift of salvation and to share that with others, as you learn to comprehend more and more the value of that gift.)
- 4. Outside of the believers at your church, how often do you think of believers in the wider body of Christ? How might you pray for them or come alongside them in other ways?
- 5. Read Hebrews 10:19-23. Describe the benefits that are listed here of being counted with Christ. Why does the Hebrew writer tell us that we should hold fast to our confession of faith? Does this depend upon you? Explain.
- 6. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. How does Paul describe the believer here? Who did we need to be reconciled to? What "job" do we now have? If that is our job, what does that tell you about the characteristics that you should exhibit?
- 7. Read Romans 10:14-17. How does Paul say that faith is received? What part do we have to play in that? How might this influence how you share the Gospel with others? What things might you make the effort to be sure to include or say? What things might you try to avoid?

Take a few moments today to just praise God for the gospel that He has given to us. Ask Him to help you to be more deliberate about sharing that gospel with others, even when it is hard.