

“A Healthy Church” **Colossians 1:1-8**

I. FOCUS: "the saints...at Colossae" (vv.1-2)

A. Writers: "Paul...Timothy" (v.1)

1. Apostle: "Paul"
2. Associate: "Timothy"

B. Readers: "the saints...at Colossae" (v.2a)

1. Believers: "saints and faithful brethren"
 - a. Relationship: "saints"
 - b. Reliability: "faithful"
2. Background: "who are at Colossae"
 - a. Spiritually: "in Christ"
 - b. Physically: "at Colossae"

C. Request: "Grace to you...and peace" (v.2b)

1. Help: "grace"
2. Harmony: "peace"

II. FACTS: "faith...love...hope" (vv.3-8)

A. Prayed: "we give thanks...praying" (v.3)

1. Appreciation: "we give thanks"
2. Appeal: "praying"

B. Prompted: "since we heard of..." (vv.4-6)

1. Past: "faith" (v.4a)
2. Present: "love" (v.4b)
3. Future: "hope" (vv.5-6)
 - a. Expectation: "the hope laid up for you"
 - b. Expansion: "the gospel...bearing fruit/increasing"

C. Promoted: "you learned it from Epaphras" (vv.7-8)

1. Learned: "just as you learned it" (v.7)
2. Loved: "informed us of your love" (v.8)

Next week: Read Colossians 1:9-14