

## Teacher In-Service Devotion 2014

Colossians 2:1-7

v. 1 “great struggle I have for you” | striving to bring them to full maturity in the faith

See Galatians 4:19 | Paul says, “I travail in birth until Christ be formed in you”

v. 1b “my face in the flesh” | do not let email, texting etc. substitute for face-to-face time

v. 2a “comforted” or encouraged (ESV)

v. 2b “knit together in love”

v. 3 Wisdom is found in Christ | Christ is sufficient; I don’t need to go to other sources READ v. 8-10

v. 4 “beguile you with enticing words” | there is an enemy; we fight a spiritual battle for the hearts and minds of our students

v. 5 “order and steadfastness of your faith in Christ” | *order* is a military term and is translated ‘good discipline’ in the NASB

v. 6 “walk in Christ”

1. Amazing Teacher | John 7:46 ‘never a man spake like this’ | Outside of the cross Christ’s primary ministry was teaching—communicating knowledge with words

2. Man of Prayer | Paul’s Prayer from Col 1:9ff

3. Determined to Do the Will of His Father | He persevered through adversity (10<sup>th</sup> grade) | Nevertheless not my will but thine be done and John 5:30 ‘I came to do the will of my Father’

4. Characterized by Showing Compassion | ‘moved to compassion’ as sheep with no shepherd (Mk. 6:34)

5. Devoted to developing the future apostles

6. Servant | See Mark 10:41-45

7. He was a student of the Word | at the age of 12 he amazed the Jewish leaders with his knowledge of the Torah They were ‘astonished at his understanding and answers’ Luke 2:47

8. He called men and women to repentance [change] | Luke 5:32 Christ came to call ‘sinners to repentance’

9. Jesus walked in the Spirit | Luke 4:1 Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit; Luke 4:14 Jesus was full of the Holy Ghost,

a. I can do this | Greater is He that is in You than He that is in the World 1 John 4:4

b. Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me

v. 7 ‘abounding with thanksgiving’ | if you are no longer thankful for this teaching ministry God has given, ask yourself why. A lack of thanksgiving is a warning sign to the believer of a possible heart problem; one may need to repent