

Colossians Chapter 1

1. **Colossians 1:3–5** How grateful are you for the faith that you have?

How often do you give thanks for the faith of others when you pray for them?

Footnote p. 365, **1:3-8 Nearly every epistle opens with a prayer of thanksgiving**

2. **Colossians 1:9–10** What is the relationship between wisdom and understanding (two spiritual gifts you received at Confirmation)?

How can you use them to grow in the knowledge of God and of his will?

Footnote p. 365, **1:10 Bearing fruit**

Isaiah 11:2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

3. **Colossians 1:13-14** From what and to what does Christ “transfer us”?

What did the Council of Trent declare in A.D. 1547 about the effects of justification in Christ?

Footnote p. 365, **1:13 Transferred us**

4. **Colossians 1:15–20** What does the hymn quoted in these verses extol? What does the hymn say Christ’s redeeming work transforms? What Old Testament personification does Christ’s preexistence and role as Creator recall? Where else does Paul make this association?

Footnote p. 366, **1:15-20 An ancient hymn**

5. **Colossians 1:15** Although Adam was created in God’s image, what does it mean to say that Christ is the image of God?

What is the role of Christ, then? To what does the term “first-born” refer in this verse?

What is Paul’s point in using the term?

Footnote p. 366, **1:15 He is the image**

6. **Colossians 1:18** To what does the analogy of Christ as “the head” point?

How is the Resurrection of Christ reproduced in the lives of believers?

Footnote p. 366, **1:18 He is the head**

7. **Colossians 1:24** What could possibly be “lacking” in the sufferings of Christ for the Church?

How might you make up in your own life for what is lacking in them, as Paul did in his time?

Footnote p. 366, **1:24 My sufferings**