

Fifth meeting on Colossians: FOCUS FOR YOUR MATURITY/UNIQUE WAY TO GROW (1:13-23)

- Before the Bible study: watch the YouTube bible study video:
<https://youtu.be/YNbZTeTKrQ8>
- Share: have you tried to share with others what you pray for them? And how you thank God for them? Have you also tried to share this with people who do not believe in Jesus? Go on to practise this and share your experiences! As well as in trying to pay attention to how you greet people and connect to people.
- Take some time to approach God in praying together. Thank God for giving His Holy Spirit and for His Word. Ask the Holy Spirit to `unlock' the Word for you.
- Read: Colossians 1 vs. 12 - 23 To understand how the passage works, you can use a print of the handout I made (separate)
 - First take time to try to understand how the smaller passages together form one passage, with one message.
 - Paul is concerned about some developments at Colossae. What do you learn from the way he deals with these concerns?
 - Vs. 23: `if' - does this mean that you can lose your faith, once you have been redeemed by Christ?
- Paul gives thanks in prison. Share how thanksgiving can sometimes be difficult for you. And what did you learn here from Paul's letter?
- Some people do not believe or realise that Christ existed before the creation of the world. Is this relevant/irrelevant?
- `In Him all things hold together' (vs. 17), `making peace' (vs. 20), `love for all the saints' (vs. 4): what is the relationship between these statements?
- vs. 23: what do we learn from Paul about the way we will grow mature and holy?
- to continue in the faith and not to shift from the hope of the Gospel: how could this give problems in our time and situation (as church / personally)
- take time to pray together!