

“THE TRUE THANKSGIVING”

11/22/09

Colossians 1:1-8

1. THE *CELEBRATION* OF THANKSGIVING: *PRAYER* (v. 3)

Thanksgiving: the joy of celebrating God’s blessings!

A. He *Prays* for the People.

“We always pray for you...”

B. He *Praises* His Lord.

“And we give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. THE *CHARACTER* OF THANKSGIVING: *PURPOSE* (vs. 4-5)

A. *Faith*

“For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus”

B. *Love*

“...and your love for all of God’s people”

C. *Hope*

“...which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven”

3. THE *CONDITION* OF THANKSGIVING: *PRODUCTIVITY* (v. 6)

A. The *Charge*

“This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world.”

B. The *Change*

“It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives.”

C. The *Condition*

“Just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God’s wonderful grace.”

4. THE *CALL* OF THANKSGIVING: *POWER* (vs. 7-8)

A. The *Responsibility*

“You have learned about God’s Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker.”

B. The *Reality*

“He is Christ’s faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf.”

C. The *Reward*

“He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you.”