

## Colossians: Finding Hope

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### Reflect

Pastor Greg opened with the question, “Have you ever been embarrassed by a fellow Christian?” Surely, we’ve all had these moments and at times we might have done or said something embarrassing. But, we as children of God should be people who are being actively changed by his grace. Read the following passages together and discuss as a group what it might look like to reflect Jesus to the world around you.

### Read

John 3:16-17, Colossians 1:15, Colossians 2:6-7, Colossians 1:1-8 and Colossians 1:6

### WHEN YOU ARE CHANGED BY GOD’S GRACE...

#### 1. YOU SEE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES DIFFERENTLY- WITH EYES OF FAITH.

Read Colossians 1:3-4, Philippians 4:13 & Genesis 17:1

- a. Where are you in your walk of faith with God?
- b. If you have placed your faith in Jesus, are you actively seeking to believe and act on his Word?
- c. Pastor Greg reminded us that often, we can readily believe lies if we are stuck in a hard place and we can’t see what God is doing. Do you see this in your life? How can you practice actively believing God at his word?

#### 2. YOU RELATE TO PEOPLE DIFFERENTLY- WITH A HEART OF LOVE.

Colossians 1:4 says “we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all God’s people”.

1. Pastor Greg shared that our maturity as believers is measured by the love that we share with others. What are ways that you as individuals as well as a small group can show love in the community around you?

#### 3. YOU SEE THE FUTURE DIFFERENTLY- WITH AN ATTITUDE OF HOPE.

Read Colossians 1:5 and 1:27.

1. Pastor Greg gave three ways that we can restore hope, find faith, practice gratitude, and rehearse the truth. Of the three areas listed, where do you sense God calling you toward a deeper dependence on him? How can we in love, move toward people and encourage hope to spring up in their lives?

### REFLECT

Colossians 2:6-7 is the foundational verse for this series. It talks about living in union with Jesus, being rooted in him and how building our lives on him will produce strong faith in us. Pray and reflect over what areas you can surrender as you seek to grow deeper and keep in step with him.