

**Title:** The Tie that Binds

**Text:** Colossians 1:1-14

**Target:** What unites us is greater than the principalities that seek to divide us.

- I. **Thankfulness in the Gospel:** *"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you."* (Vs. 3)
  - A. **Evidence of Faith:** *"since we **heard** of your faith in Christ Jesus"* (Vs. 4a)
  - B. **Expression of Faith:** *"of the **love** that you have for all the saints"* (Vs. 4b)
  
- II. **Truth of the Gospel:** *"because of the **hope** laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, **the gospel,**"* (Vs. 5)
  - A. **Guarantee of Salvation:** *"hope laid up for you in heaven"* (Vs. 5)
  - B. **Gift of Salvation:** *"which has come to you"* (Vs. 6)
  - C. **Growth of Salvation:** *"in the whole world it is bearing fruit and **increasing**"* (Vs. 6)
  - D. **Grace of Salvation:** *"heard it and understood the **grace** of God in truth."* (Vs. 6b)
  
- III. **Testimony of the Gospel:** *"just as you **learned** it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the **Spirit.**"* (Vs.7-8)
  
- IV. **Transformation of the Gospel:** *"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that..."* (Vs.9a)
  - A. **Know God's Will Fully:** *"you may be **filled** with knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding."* (Vs. 9b)
  - B. **Walk Worthy:** *"so as to **walk** in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him:"* (Vs.10a)
  - C. **Bear Fruit Daily:** *"**bearing fruit** in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."* (Vs.10b)
  - D. **Strengthened Mightily:** *"being strengthened with **all power**, according to his glorious might."* (Vs.11a)
  - E. **Enduring Joyfully:** *"for all endurance and patience with joy."* (Vs.11b)
  
- V. **Transfer of the Gospel:** *"**transferred** us to the kingdom of his beloved Son"* (Vs.13)
  - A. **Qualified you:** *"giving thanks to the Father, who has **qualified** you"* (Vs.12a)
  - B. **Inheritance to you:** *"to share in the **inheritance** of the saints in light."* (Vs.12b)
  - C. **Delivered you:** *"**delivered** us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son."* (Vs.13)
  - D. **Redeemed you:** *"in whom we have **redemption**"* (Vs. 14a)
  - E. **Forgives you:** *"the **forgiveness** of sins."* (Vs.14b)

**Takeaway:** Believe what God believes about you. And if what you believe about yourself or what others believe about you does not match up to what God believes about you, then something's gotta change.