



SUPREME

PASTOR ED NEWTON SEPTEMBER 23 & 24 THE TIE THAT BINDS

Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Sep 24, 2023
Pastor Ed Newton

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)

Question #1: After receiving the Gospel, the Colossians responded by living with an evident love and service for those around them. The term often used to describe this is the "Joy of our Salvation." **Read Psalm 51:12-17 together.** *Discuss how finding sincere joy in our salvation can influence our lives. What do you believe cultivates this joy, and what dangers could we face without it?*

- 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)

Question #2: Reflect on your testimony for a minute. *In what areas of your life have you experienced the most personal "growth" that comes from your salvation? How would you offer guidance to someone in a similar situation?*

- 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)

Question #3: *What do you believe is the purpose of Gospel transformation in our lives? What is the goal, and how is it different from simply changing our behavior in order to be “good people?”*

Question #4: *Pastor Ed shared how easy it is to seek the “hidden, specific things” of God’s Will for our lives (job, spouse, etc.) while disregarding the plain things God has revealed in His Word. What does it mean to pursue the plain things of God’s Will and stay in step with Him? Which factors in life can make this difficult at times?*

- 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.

Question #5: *In Christ, we have an inheritance; we have been qualified, delivered, redeemed, and forgiven. However, it’s possible for us to live as if we don’t believe these things to be true. How would having a distorted view of this reality impact our lives? Do you find it challenging to embrace and genuinely believe any aspect of this reality as being true for you? How would you minister to someone struggling to believe these truths about themselves?*
