

Remnant Life Church
October 11, 2015
Colossians – Part 1
Colossians 1:3-4

- The early versus in the first chapter are a rich and important guide or template for how we should interact with the people God places in our lives

3 Ways that Paul Shows that He Cares

- *We continually give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), as we are praying for you; For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, (Amplified version)*

FIRST WAY-

- Versus 3,4, and 5 in the original language (Greek) are one complete sentence
 - Paul didn't have to try and string together his thoughts; they were already connected
 - His entire thought process was one of gratitude
- Thanksgiving is the instinct of a life that is under the grace of God
- **Luke 17:11-19 – READ**
 - Gratitude is not about who you are
 - Gratitude is not about what you have come through
 - Never allow pride or embarrassment to keep you from expressing thanks
 - The 7 festival feasts that God gave to Moses all centered around thanks and gratitude to God for His protection, provision, and mercy (Lev 23)
- Gratitude is a great enemy of pride
 - To thank someone means that you are giving them praise and credit which means there is less or none for you
 - Pride always wants the credit, always wants the recognition, always needs to be thanked instead of thanking
 - This will keep you from being all that God desires for you
 - 19th century evangelist and scholar D.L. Moody
 - "I believe firmly that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and everything that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Spirit will fill every corner of our hearts. But if we are full of pride and conceit and ambition and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God. We must be emptied before we can be filled."
 - Paul came to finally understand that in his own life
 - **2 Cor 11** – Paul lists all of the experiences of his life and his pedigree that qualify him to say the things that he does; written in the middle of his missionary journeys
 - **1 Tim 1:15** - *Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.* (Written just a year or so before he was martyred by Nero)