

Steadfast: A Study of Colossians

What the Spirit of God Speaks to the Faithful

Pastor Craig Sweeney | October 23, 2022

Thread: By the will of God, YOU are chosen to be steadfast.

What does the Spirit of God say to the faithful?

You are never alone.

“This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God’s wonderful grace.” Colossians 1:6 NLT

- You are not alone.
 - In a world of tribalism and persistent rearranging of IN/OUT groups, you are not alone.
 - The fact that God has come to us begs the question of, “Why?”
 - It was the answer to a basic human question – “Am I alone in this world?”
 - The Spirit of God speaks to His Church:
 - John 1:14 NLT
 - John 14:18 - 20 NLT

What does the Spirit of God say to the FAITHFUL?

Remain in me, and I will expand your capacity for more.

“You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker. He is Christ’s faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you. So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you...” Colossians 1:7 - 9 NLT

-The Steadfast prays:

- “We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need.”
Colossians 1:9 - 11 NLT

-Paul’s Prayer:

- Clarity of WHAT God wants for you.
- Clarity of WHY God wants it for you.
- Clarity of the DEPTH of relationship you could have with Jesus.

-Pray to expand your capacity for more.

- More ENDURANCE in times of trouble to stand your ground, stay the course.
- More PATIENCE in the waiting while God brings you resolve.
- More FAITH for the moment you are in and will be in.
- More ABILITY to make impact for the kingdom of God.
 - Practices for more (move past inconvenience and think determination):
 - Time in the Chair
 - Receiving from God
 - Exercising our faith
 - Time with the RIGHT others
 - Not everyone will help you get to God’s clarity
 - Find those who will

-What, because of inconvenience, is still out of your reach?

“May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.” Colossians 1:11b – 14 NLT

Challenge:

- Chair Time challenge (3-5 days a week for 15 minutes or more).
- Read through Colossians for the month of October and November.
- Listen and exercise your faith to become more steadfast in Christ.



**DEVOTIONALS
& MESSAGE
RESOURCES**