

In Christ
Colossians 1:1-2
Pastor Conley

Review:

This week Pastor began leading us in a new study through the book of Colossians. Although Paul has never been to this city, he writes because they are together with him “in Christ.” This book serves as a warning against drifting away from the solid grounding which is “in Christ.” We need this series because the American church has so often found itself following after men, programs, ministries, etc. instead of Jesus Christ. Those who have been transformed by Christ are those described in verse 2 as those who are saints (ones devoted to God), faithful (ones reliant upon Christ), and brothers (ones born into a new family with conspicuous signs of new life).

Application:

1. In what way(s) do we (Greenville, Hampton Park) find ourselves following after men, programs and ministries instead of Christ?
2. How should an understanding of us being “in Christ” with all other believers everywhere change our views regarding race, social status, and other differences?
3. Paul says in verse 2 that one of the effects of being in Christ is that people become devoted to God. What does your life reveal that you are devoted to? Is your devotion to God evident to others?
4. Followers of Christ are not only devoted to him but completely reliant upon Him. When confronted with friend or family problems, school difficulties, job or other problems, do you turn to Christ or something or someone else? In what specific area do you need to begin relying upon Christ?
5. Paul also describes those who are in Christ as those who have been born into the family of God. Can others tell that you have been born into God’s family? Which of the evidences (love for God, the Word of God, and the People of God) do you see in your life? Do you see any?