

TANKING UP YOUR TQ

Colossians 1:3-8

How is your TQ? This stands for our *Thankfulness Quotient*. It is a measure of the quality of the thanks we give to God. It is wonderful to thank him for health and prosperity, for family and friends, but in this week's study we want to learn some things that we should add to our praise list.

³We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, ⁵which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.

⁶This 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.

⁷You 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. ⁸He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you.

First, we need to remember that while everyone appreciates being thanked, it is the prime prerogative of God to receive our gratefulness for all his blessings.

Where do you see God in these verses (1:3-8)?

For what specifics of God's working is Paul thankful?

Everything we are and have comes from God and all of our completeness is found in Him! More specifically, this comes to us because we are "in Christ Jesus."

What do the following verses teach us about being "in Christ"?

1:2

1:4

1:16

1:17

1:19

1:28

2:5

2:6

2:7

2:9

2:10

2:15

What trio of Christian possessions does Paul mention in verses 4 and 5?

Consider what these verses add to our understanding of these three:

1 Corinthians 13:13

1 Thessalonians 1:3

1 Thessalonians 5:8

How did they come to have grace and peace (1:2) as well as this hope laid up in heaven (1:5-7)?

What do you notice about the gospel (1:5-7)?

Read over 1:3-8 and compose a prayer of thankfulness to God for these blessings in your life as a believer.

