



## Hope Changes Everything | Colossians 1:1-8

1. Have someone read, or read together, Colossians 1:3-8.
2. Sunday's message was entitled "Hope Changes Everything." Hope really does make a difference in all of our lives. What are some things that people you know are really hoping for, and how does their hoping impact the way that they live right now?
3. The hope that is talked about in Colossians 1:3-8 is something that transcends the circumstances of our lives. What exactly is this hope? What makes this hope meaningful to you?
4. How do you think that this hope—eternity with God—practically impacts the way that you live today? How about your choices or dreams?
5. We see in this passage that only Jesus can give this hope (the story of Jesus—the gospel—tells us that). Is it true that no one or nothing can give you eternity with God other than Jesus? Why?
6. What kind of response is required from a person for the secure reality of this hope to be in their life? Do you know of someone who needs this hope? Why not share the person's name with the rest of your small group and spend some time praying for him or her.
7. Are you willing and able to become an "Epaphras" in this person's life? Look at these verses and realize that it was Epaphras—the one who returned to Colossae after becoming a Christian under Paul's ministry—who told them about this hope found only in Jesus. What would this look like?
8. What are some of the things that you need in your life to help you stay focused on this real hope that you have in Christ? How will you proceed with these?