

When Christ is

above all

everything else finds
its proper place.

ABOVE

ALL

FOLLOW THE SIGNS

Colossians 1:1 – 8

August 30, 2026

Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

— Colossians 1:1 – 8 (ESV)

- **Traveling by grace**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. — Colossians 1:1 – 2 (ESV)

- **Living with eternity in view**

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ...

— Colossians 1:3 (ESV)

- **Thanksgiving lifts our eyes**

... since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven ... — Colossians 1:4 – 5a (ESV)

- **Bearing new fruit**

... Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ... — Colossians 1:5b – 6 (ESV)

- **Helping others find the way**

... just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit. — Colossians 1:7 – 8 (ESV)

- **God loves to do extraordinary things through ordinary people**

When Christ is

above all

everything else finds
its proper place.

ABOVE

ALL

MESSAGE SUMMARY

As we begin our journey through Colossians, we're reminded that when Christ is above all, He changes the direction of our lives. His grace gives us a new identity, His gospel transforms us, His hope reshapes our priorities, and our lives become signposts that point others to Christ. As you discuss today's message, reflect on how Christ is directing your journey and where your life is pointing others.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: If your life had a road sign over it right now, what would it say, and why?
- Read Colossians 1:1–2. Paul greets the believers with “grace” before giving them any instruction. Why do you think God always begins with grace before obedience? How does remembering your identity in Christ change the way you approach following Him?
- Read Colossians 1:3–5a. Paul begins by thanking God for the faith of others. Who has helped shape your faith, and what is one practical way you could encourage them this week?
- Read Colossians 1:4–6. Paul says their faith and love grew “because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.” Why do you think hope comes before faith and love in this passage? How does our future in Christ shape the way we live today?
- Read Colossians 1:15–20. As this Above All series begins, what stands out most to you about who Jesus is in these verses? How do you hope seeing Him more clearly will shape your life over the coming weeks?
- Read Colossians 1:6–8. Share one area where you want to grow and one person you hope to point toward Jesus. Then pray for one another.