

Message Reflection Guide

Introduction | Colossians 1:1-2



Conversation Starter

When was the last time you received a written (or printed) letter from a friend in the mail? How did that impact you rather than receiving the same content by email?

Who is writing?

Read Colossians 1:1 and Acts 9:1-9. How does Paul's backstory add weight to his authority and his transformation?

What does it mean to be "an apostle of Christ Jesus"? Read Ephesians 4:11-12. Do you relate more to one of those five leadership roles mentioned (apostle, prophet, evangelist, shepherd, teacher)?

Who is receiving?

Read Colossians 1:2. To whom is this letter written? What is the significance of Paul calling them saints?

Why is it significant that Paul took time to write to this small, struggling city he never even visited? How does this encourage you personally?

What is the message?

Read Colossians 1:17–18. What does it mean for Jesus to be "before all things" and to "hold all things together"?

How do these verses shape the way we understand Jesus' role in our personal lives? Our church? Our world?

Challenge

1. Embrace your identity. How would your mindset or choices shift if you fully embraced this identity?
2. Live like an apostle. Where is God calling you to carry the gospel message?
3. Rest in His grace. How can you practice living in God's grace and receiving His peace more deeply this week?

Prayer

Father, thank You that Jesus holds all things together—even when our lives feel fragile. Help us live out our calling with courage and clarity. Remind us who we are, whose we are, and that Your grace is enough. Teach us to trust You more deeply this week. In Jesus' name, amen.