GRACE NOTES

Sunday, October 15, 2017
Series: Colossians—Jesus Is Enough
Message: Prayer from Prison (part 2)
Scripture: Colossians 1:9-14

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9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Study Notes:

Other than Jesus or another person from the Bible, who was or is your spiritual hero? Why?

What person or persons do you most want to influence for Christ?

Thinking back to Sunday's service, what encouraged you, inspired you, challenged you, or changed your thinking?

Look again at Colossians 1:9-10.
How do your prayers for others compare to Paul's prayers? How do they differ?

How would you describe a life that was fully pleasing to God?

How can a Christian have joy while enduring hardship?

Read 2 Timothy 2:3-7.
Paul mentions "suffering as a soldier for Jesus Christ."
How do soldiers in the military suffer for their cause or country? How might this compare to the suffering of believers?

How and why do athletes and farmers suffer or struggle? How might this compare to the sufferings and struggles of believers?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.
God did not remove the "thorn" from Paul's life. What did He give Paul instead? Was this enough? Was it fair?

In verse 10, Paul lists some of his struggles and suffering. Why do you believe He was willing to endure all this?

Read Romans 8:35-39.
What do we learn of God's presence and provision for us in times of trouble and distress?

Some Christians never seem to have any joy. Why do you think this is so? How might you encourage them?