

# WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN PRISON?

Monday Devotional  
Colossians 1:1-14

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**MONDAY  
DEVOTIONAL  
Colossians 1:1-14**

**Group Discussion  
and Prayer**

# Monday Devotional

## Colossians 1:1-14



### BEFORE THE PRESENTATION

**Read:** Colossians 1:1-14; Ephesians 1:15-20; 3:14-19; Philippians 1:3-11

**Discussion:** Paul is thankful for the Colossians' spiritual growth and PRAYS for them regarding: *their love for the believers, bearing fruit, understanding the grace of God, knowledge of God's will, walking in a manner worthy of the Lord, increasing in the knowledge of God, endurance, patience, joy, thankfulness.*

Choose two items from this list—a strength and a weakness (e.g., *strength* - you have endured a lot of hardships and have overcome; you are always joyful; *weakness* - you see little ‘fruit’ in your life and/or ministry; you are impatient with immature believers).

1. Share with the group why you chose these two items.
2. In which way is your strength impacting those who serve the Lord with you?
3. In what practical ways can you grow in your area of weakness?
4. Have the group pray for you for these two areas.



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

## ► PRAYER

- Epistolary greetings & prayer
- Generous prayer
- Product of prayer
- Praying leadership - CYT



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

## ► PRAYER

- Paul & Timothy - prayer partners
- Prayer for the whole being
- Consistent prayer (until it hurts)
- Consistent results (in God's time)

# Prayer of Saint Benedict

“O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Yeshua, our Messiah, Amen.”



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

## ► Paul in PRISON

- from dungeon to house arrest
- Eph 3:1; 4:1; 2 Tim 1:8; Philemon 1, 9
- 1 Cor 9:19, 21; Rom 7:25b



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

- Israelites in PRISON – all innocent
  - Joseph – Genesis 39
  - Simeon – Gen 42
  - Samson – Judges 15
  - Micaiah ben Imlah – 1 Kings 22
  - Hoshea – 2 Kings 17
  - Jehoiachin – 2 Kings 24; Jeremiah 52
  - Jeremiah – Jeremiah 37
  - Zedekiah – Jeremiah 52



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

- Believers in PRISON – all innocent
  - John the Baptist – Matthew 4; 11
  - Yeshua – Matthew 27
  - Peter – Acts 12:1-11
  - Silas – Acts 16:16-28
  - Timothy – Colossians 1
  - Paul – Acts 16; 20; 24-26



# COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

## ► God in PRISON

- FCI – Messianic Erev Shabbat service; feasts
- TUMI – The Urban Ministry Institute
- Global Prison Seminaries Foundation -  
<http://globalprisonseminaries.org/>
- Angola State Penitentiary – training  
pastors in Bible College & Seminary  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=angola+prison+seminary&&view=detail&mid=D5231D4E89A4E3EDBB57D5231D4E89A4E3EDBB57&&FORM=VRDGAR>



# **COLOSSIANS 1:1-14**

## **IN PRISON, Paul focused on what is important:**

- Introducing prisoners & guards to Yeshua
- Constant & generous prayer
- Encouraging the body of believers
- Salvation of the lost
- Reassuring & supporting leaders, etc.

# Monday Devotional

## Colossians 1:1-14



### AFTER THE PRESENTATION

**Read:** Genesis 39; Acts 16:16-28; 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

**Discussion:** Paul was both a prisoner of the empire and a prisoner of the Lord. Picture yourself as a ‘prisoner’ incarcerated in a federal correctional institution.

1. What is your attitude?
2. What are your fears and struggles?
3. Who do you associate with?
4. What lessons do you learn and how can you apply them to your life during and after incarceration?
5. What similarities are there between being ‘a prisoner of the empire’ and a ‘prisoner of the Lord’? What does it mean to you to be a ‘prisoner of the Lord’?



# Trinitarian Prayer from John Stott

► “Heavenly Father I worship you as the creator and sustainer of the universe. Lord Jesus [Yeshua], I worship you, Saviour and Lord of the world. Holy Spirit, I worship you, sanctifier of the people of God. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Heavenly Father, I pray that I may live this day in your presence and please you more and more.



## Trinitarian Prayer from John Stott

► “Lord Jesus [Yeshua], I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you. Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God, have mercy upon me. Amen.”



**Assignment:**

**Find a prayer partner  
with whom you will pray  
every day this week**

**LCJE - International Conference  
Toronto, ON, Canada - August 11-16, 2019**

**“WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN PRISON?”  
Colossians 1:1-14**

**Hélène Dallaire, PhD - Denver Seminary**

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**DISCUSSION #1: Before the presentation**

**Read:** Colossians 1:1-14; Ephesians 1:15-20; 3:14-19; Philippians 1:3-11

**Discussion:** Paul is thankful for the Colossians' spiritual growth and prays for them regarding: *their love for the believers, bearing fruit, understanding the grace of God, knowledge of God's will, walking in a manner worthy of the Lord, increasing in the knowledge of God, endurance, patience, joy, thankfulness.*

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Share with the group why you chose these two items—a strength and a weakness.

1. In which way is your strength impacting those who serve the Lord around you?
  2. In what practical ways can you grow in your area of weakness?
  3. Have the group pray for you for these two areas.
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**DISCUSSION #2: After the presentation.**

**Read:** Genesis 39 (Joseph); Acts 16:16-28; 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

**Discussion:** Paul was both a prisoner of the empire and a prisoner of the Lord. Picture yourself as a ‘prisoner’ incarcerated in a federal correctional institution.

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5. What similarities are there between being ‘a prisoner of the empire’ and a ‘prisoner of the Lord’? What does it mean to you to be a ‘prisoner of the Lord’?

## **PRISON:**

1. Paul in PRISON
2. Israelites in PRISON – *all innocent*
  - a. Hebrew Bible: Joseph – Genesis 39; Simeon – Gen 42; Samson – Judges 15; Micaiah ben Imlah – 1 Kings 22; Hoshea – 2 Kings 17; Jehoiachin – 2 Kings 24 and Jeremiah 52; Jeremiah – Jeremiah 37; Zedekiah – Jeremiah 52
  - b. Believers in Prison - New Testament: John the Baptist – Matthew 4; 11; Yeshua – Matthew 27; Peter – Acts 12:1-11; Silas – Acts 16:16-28; Timothy – Colossians 1; Paul – Acts 16; 20; 24-26
3. God in PRISON
  - a. Federal Correctional Institution (CO) – Messianic Erev Shabbat service; feasts
  - b. TUMI – The Urban Ministry Institute
  - c. Global Prison Seminaries Foundation - <http://globalprisonseminaries.org/>
  - d. Angola State Penitentiary -  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=angola+prison+seminary&&view=detail&mid=D5231D4E89A4E3EDBB57D5231D4E89A4E3EDBB57&&FORM=VRDGAR>

## **PRAAYER:**

1. Paul a man of prayer
  - a. Prayer partner
  - b. Generous in prayer
  - c. Consistent in prayer—until it hurts
  - d. Prayer for the entire being—spirit, soul & body
  - e. Results of prayer

Trinitarian Prayer from John Stott - “*Heavenly Father I worship you as the creator and sustainer of the universe. Lord Jesus [Yeshua], I worship you, Saviour and Lord of the world. Holy Spirit, I worship you, sanctifier of the people of God. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Heavenly Father, I pray that I may live this day in your presence and please you more and more. Lord Jesus [Yeshua], I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you. Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God, have mercy upon me. Amen.*”

## **Assignment:**

Find a prayer partner with whom you will pray every day this week