



RCC Phoenix – 11.22.20 – Aggressive Gratitude (Week 1)

The further our culture moves away from God and His Word, the more we see attitudes and beliefs that are opposite of Almighty God increase.

One widespread and deadly attitude in our country is _____.

Envy is a root of _____.

Envy and entitlement are poisons that quickly suffocate _____.

We can cripple the disease of envy & entitlement through Aggressive Gratitude to God.

Aggressive Definition:

- driving forceful energy or initiative
- more _____ or comprehensive than usual

Gratitude Definition:

- The _____ of being grateful

Aggressive Gratitude = Using forceful energy and a more intensive dedication to remain in a state of being grateful.

Colossians 1:1-8 NLT

“This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Timothy. We are writing to God’s holy people in the city of Colosse, who are faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. May God our Father give you grace and peace. We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God’s people, which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News. This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God’s wonderful grace. You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker. He is Christ’s faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you.”

1. The Work God is Doing in _____

Colossians 1:3-5 NLT

“We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God’s people, which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News.”

There is no specific _____ that Paul and Timothy had ever been to Colosse.

Paul and Timothy are _____ with the success of another church.

We need to destroy the idea that churches are in _____ with other churches.

Every believer in Christ is on one _____, the one lead by Almighty God, His Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

If we share the Gospel with someone at work and they get saved but wind up going to a different Bible believing church, we all still _____.

If we can’t be happy for _____ there is a great probability envy and entitlement have clouded our heart.

Situations:

- A. Another family gets a blessing we’ve been praying for...
- B. When another parent sees their child healed...
- C. When a person we’ve been praying for is led to Christ by someone else...

Envy / Entitlement Responds:

- A. Why did they get that before us?
- B. We’ve done more for God then they have. Why isn’t our child healed?
- C. I did all that praying and someone else gets the payoff?

Gratitude Responds:

- A. Thank God that He still answers _____!
- B. Thank God that He remains the _____!
- C. Thank God that He still does the miracle of _____ the lost!

God’s great work in the lives of others should remind us He is capable of answering our prayers!

Philippians 4:5-7 NIV

“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

2. God Has an _____ Plan

Colossians 1:7-8 NLT

“You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker. He is Christ’s faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you.”

Epaphras:

- Gets _____ under Paul’s ministry.
- Obediently _____ the Gospel in Colosse.
- Is most likely the founder & leader of the _____ in Colosse.
- Remains faithful to Christ and the spreading of the _____.
- _____ for the believers in Colosse.

Colossians 4:12-13 NLT

“Epaphras, a member of your own fellowship and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends you his greetings. He always prays earnestly for you, asking God to make you strong and perfect, fully confident that you are following the whole will of God. I can assure you that he prays hard for you and also for the believers in Laodicea and Hierapolis.”

All of us have been _____ because of God’s unseen plan!

All of us are playing a _____ in God’s unseen plan!

May we be people who live a life of aggressively looking for ways of being grateful to God for the work He is doing in others and for His unseen plan.