

***RCC Phoenix – 11.29.20 – Aggressive Gratitude (Week 2)***

1. Gratitude to God for Making His Way **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Colossians‬**

“So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. *We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding.* Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.

God is not playing an eternal game of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with us.

*Gnostics*: People who believe they have special (and often times mystical) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Example: Some Gnostics believed Christ entered Jesus during His baptism and left during his crucifixion. This idea is completely opposite of Scripture. But Gnostics believe they have “special knowledge” so they can assume or imply their own **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** understanding on the text even if it’s in contradiction to the Bible.

These types of gnostic ideas were prevalent in the area of Colosse and still exist today in many **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

We need to be very **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of people who claim to have “special knowledge.”

“Do not add to or subtract from these commands I am giving you. Just obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you.”

“Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to him for protection. Do not add to his words, or he may rebuke you and expose you as a liar.”

“And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book: If anyone adds anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person’s share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book.”

People who claim to have some form of “special knowledge” that’s isn’t available to anyone else and can only be directly received from them, ultimately desire to be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

“For, There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus.”

God’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Can Be Clearly Found in God’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

1. God Desires Everyone to Be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, *not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance*.”

1. God Desires Everyone to Live a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Life

“I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority *so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.* This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.”

1. God Desires Everyone to Love **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and Love **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

“Jesus replied, “‘You must *love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.*’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘*Love your neighbor as yourself.*’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Aggressive Gratitude thanks God that He is available to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** believers equally, that He gives wisdom and understanding to all who **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Him for it and that we can find His will in His Word.

1. Gratitude to God for Our **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. *He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.”*

The Christian Inheritance in Scripture is simply the promise of being **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and spending **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with God in Heaven.

Aggressive Gratitude takes time to think of what **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** would be without Jesus.