

## ***What is a Healthy Church Member***

### **Week 2 Study Guide**

Colossians 1:3-10

*3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, 7 just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf 8 and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.*

*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.*

1. Paul's earnest prayer for the Colossians was to become filled with the knowledge of the will of God in all spiritual wisdom and understanding (vv. 9-10). What is the relationship of this event to hearing and believing in the Gospel (vv. 5-6)?
2. What are the characteristics of true faith in the Gospel which Paul observed in the lives of the Colossians?
3. How important is growth in the knowledge of God in our individual lives and in our life together as a church?
4. Thabiti mentioned in page 27 that knowing God is our first great calling when we come to Christ in faith. What is Biblical Theology? Describe the difference of growing in Biblical Theology between the church members and those who teach, i.e. pastors and elders. What is the role of Elders in this process?
5. What does Thabiti mean by "God's macro story of redemption" (p. 28)? Why is knowing this important?
6. How does Biblical Theology promote growth in the church?
7. Thabiti suggested several strategies for us in becoming Biblical theologians. Which method is the most difficult for you? Is there anything you could add to his list?
8. What specific plans could you make to strengthen your knowledge of God?