



BREAKING THE ICE

What kind of pivots have you had in your life in the last few months?

Where have you seen a small prompt in your life that has turned into a pivotal, life-changing moment?

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Over the next few weeks, we will be studying the book of Colossians. Colossians is one of the many letters Paul wrote that are recorded in the New Testament. Colossians was written by Paul for the church of Colossae.

Paul was known for telling others about Christ and planting churches, but then he was imprisoned. His imprisonment was a pivot in his life.

This pivot led to Paul writing letters and encouraging followers of Jesus to hold onto their faith. Paul decided to focus on what he could do instead of what he could not do.

1. What is one thing that you've been encouraged you can do when you have been limited on what you can't do?

Paul spent his time focusing on how he could help others. When we help others, there is a chemical reaction that helps relieve stress.

Paul's message to the people was that the world belongs to Jesus, not the government. He was giving them a message of peace. Just like the people of Colossae, we need those reminders, that we can trust Jesus' wisdom, knowledge and peace for our lives because we belong to Him.

2. Describe a time where you felt complete trust in Jesus.

In Colossians 1, Paul reminded the people of Colossae that they were God's holy people; that they were

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set apart and made holy because He made us holy. Sometimes it's hard for us to hear that because we know all of our flaws. God knows our flaws. Yet, He still calls us, His people, holy.

Paul told the people of Colossae that He has been praying for them. Just like when we help others, praying for others releases stress. The prayers Paul prayed for the church helped Paul give grace and love to the people.

3. Describe a time where you prayed for someone else and the relationship changed through those prayers.

Read Colossians 1:9-13

4. What part of this prayer do you need the most in your life right now?

We can find four truths from Colossians 1 and the prayer in this scripture. The first truth is, **CONFIDENCE COMES FROM WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST**. As a Christ-follower, we should find our identity in Him. Our jobs can change, our children will grow into adults, our finances can fluctuate; none of those things are our identity. We are set apart as holy and God's children and that is where we should find our identity, in Him.

5. Where do you find your identity? Do you need to shift your identity into who you are in Christ?

The second truth from Colossians 1 is, **YOU ARE AT YOUR BEST WHEN YOU ARE OTHERS-FOCUSED**. When we are others-focused, we aren't inward-focused. We see things from another perspective, a wider perspective. We can see the blessings we have when we can shift our focus to those who may not have the same blessings we have.

6. Where do you need to be others-focused in your life right now? When you have been others-focused, how did you see your perspective shift?

The third truth is, **PRAY FOR WISDOM**. When we pray for wisdom, God gives us ideas that we may not normally have. Prayer gives us the time to sit and wait for God to show us what our next step should be and how to pivot when needed.

7. How have you seen your prayers answered?

The last truth is, **DON'T LEAVE THE ROCK**. There is a temptation to pivot on things that matter the most

in our lives. Don't pivot out of panic, pivot out of peace. If there isn't peace, pray and ask God for wisdom about the decision you are about to make before you pivot.

PRAYER

Thank you, God, for the things you have blessed us with and the freedom to worship you. Will you remind us of who we are in you? Will you give us the confidence of what you have called us to do? Give us wisdom to make the right decisions and not pivot out of fear but to pivot out of your peace where change needs to happen in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ACTION STEPS

- + Visit www.crosspoint.tv/study for video and book ideas that dig deeper into the book of Colossians.
- + Follow along on our social media channels as we share prayers and thoughts throughout the week.
- + Check out First Cup on Instagram and Facebook for some devotional time Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Come back next week ready to discuss what you learned in Colossians 1.