

## Colossians 1:1-8 – True Gospel, True Messenger, True Christians

1. The Colossians are true Christians (vv. 3-5)
2. The Colossians believe the true gospel (v. 6)
3. The Colossians trust a true messenger (vv. 7-8)

*Questions for us?* Read Colossians 2:6-7 – is this a verse you could memorise over this term? What have the Colossians done in 2:6? Do you ever doubt if you have really received Christ Jesus as Lord? What things cause you to doubt your status as believers? What does the Christian life look like when we rely solely on Jesus to keep us safe (our harness)? Or when we try and add other things in too? What might you cling to, outside of Jesus, to keep you safe?

What marked out the Colossian believers as true Christians in vv. 3-5? How would you define faith, love and hope? How are they defined here? How might these characteristics encourage us that we have truly received Jesus? Have you ever worried you are trapped in a Christian bubble? How does the global spread of Christianity encourage you that Jesus is dependable (v. 6)? Why does it matter who told you about Jesus (vv. 7-8)? Does the life of the person who told you about Jesus commend the gospel to you? Does it cause you to worry instead that you've not been given the truth? What does this say to those of us with leadership roles in church?