



**Calvary Chapel South Bay  
Men's Ministry 2018 – 19**

**“Putting Christ First”**

**Session 1**

**September 25, 2018**

**“The fruit of putting Jesus first”**

As we start this year out in the Men's Fellowship, we are going to learn what it means to put Jesus first in our lives. Hopefully, we will be driven to ask ourselves, “Do I really put Jesus first? Am I following hard after Jesus?” In this first passage of the year, we learn that the idea of putting Christ first actually comes to us from **“the word of the truth of the gospel.”** When we place our **“faith in Christ Jesus”** we are saying that we are no longer putting ourselves first, and are placing Jesus in His rightful place on the throne of our lives as Lord. If we have truly done this, there will be **“fruit”** in our lives as evidence. As you study this passage, look in the mirror and be honest with yourself. Are you seeing the fruit Paul mentions in your life, which shows you are indeed putting Christ first?

**Passage:** Colossians 1:1-8

**Personal Study Time Questions:**

**Scripture: Colossians 1:3-4**

What has Paul “heard” about the Colossian church that gives him cause to thank God for? (Notice he doesn't thank the Colossians, but God; as it is a work of His Spirit). The order of things is important in the Word. What does the order of what Paul has heard tell you?

**Scripture: Colossians 1:5**

What promise had God given the Colossians and where had they **“heard”** of it?

**Scripture: Colossians 1:6**

What does the gospel bring forth when it is received by faith? What do we have to “hear and know” if that is to be brought forth in our own lives?

**Scripture: Colossians 1:4-5**

What three fruits were mentioned in these verses that will show forth in our lives when we put Jesus first?

**Scripture: Colossians 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23**

Who is it that must produce the fruit of love in us, and does so because we have put Jesus first in our lives?

**Scripture: Galatians 5:22-23**

Love is listed first in Galatians because it is THE fruit. What follows are all the expressions of love. What are they? Examine your walk and see if you are seeing them in your life.

**Personal meditation time with Jesus:**

Read Galatians 5:22-23. Love is listed first because it is THE fruit of the Spirit. What follows are all the expressions of love. What are they? Examine your walk and see if you are seeing them in your own life. If you see a lack of it, then maybe you have never really put Christ first in your life as Lord. We are saved when we “Call on the name of the Lord.” The good news is that can all be changed right now! Confess to Him that you never really put Him first, and ask Him to be your Lord from this day forth, and to produce in you the fruit of faith, hope and love.

When you get together in your group, declare that you have taken this stand for Jesus!

***Be bold for Christ! Surrender total control to Him and experience all the love and hope He wants to fill your life with!***

**Hide God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):**

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5