

“Oh, that we might know the Lord!  
Let us press on to know him!”  
(Hosea 6:3)

# GOD CHASERS CLASS

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012

FELLOWSHIP HALL 9:15 AM

## Rooted in Thankfulness

Colossians 2:1-7

Our Colossians study for this week will focus on this text:

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

The last three words above have especially caught my attention, and I've thought a lot about that. For example, what if this were true →

Scary! I'd probably be broke and shelter-less and starving in a very few days. Of course, that's not from the Bible. Here's what *is* in the Bible. Ungratefulness is a sin (2 Timothy 3:2), but God is very merciful and full of grace—almost unreasonably so. Read these words spoken by Jesus about the Father:

“He is kind to the ungrateful and wicked” (Luke 6:35).

From that we see that ungratefulness is the same as being wicked (Ouch), and we see that when God tell us to make a habit of treating others better than they deserve, he practices what he preaches. The Father really expects the old saying, “Like father, like son” to apply to his sons and daughters.

There is a lot we can explore in class about thankfulness (for example, when Paul wrote to the Colossians under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he said *abounding* in thankfulness, an escalation from the sort of thankfulness a lot of us practice.)

One thing I want to be sure we examine Sunday morning is this question: Who hates gratitude? Who can't stand to be around thankfulness to God? It is the Whisperer, the tempter, the one who wants you always worried, struggling, anxious, and fearful.

There's some very practical strategy to be drawn from that, and I don't think you need me to flesh it out, you can readily work it out for yourself. But it's so important that we'll take time as a class group to drill down several layers below the surface in this whole matter of abounding in thankfulness.

See you Sunday,

Tom

