



Chinese International Missions, Inc.

02.01.2025

The Gospel and Hope, Faith and Love

~ Rev Yoman Man

In the first chapter of book of Colossians, Paul presents us with a vivid picture of the Gospel. A picture of the Gospel gives birth to hope, and hope gives birth to faith and love. Faith, love and hope seem to be the most basic fruits of the Gospel and are the basic manifestations that a person who preaches the Gospel must have in his or her own life; they are also the standard for measuring the effectiveness of cultivating the lives of others.

Hope: The Promised Fruit of the Gospel

Paul mentioned that the faith and love of believers are based on the hope of the Gospel: “the hope stored up for you in heaven” (Col. 1:5). This hope is rooted in the Gospel, built on the redemptive work of Christ, and demonstrates confidence in the future eschatological completion of salvation. This hope guides believers’ values and behavior patterns, motivating them to share the Gospel so that more people will know that the kingdom of God has come, and all those who are willing to open themselves to the Gospel and believe in Christ will receive eternal life.

In the storms of life, the hope in heaven is like a solid anchor of faith, giving us the resilience to face challenges. This hope reminds believers that no matter how difficult their current situation is, it cannot compare to the glory of Heaven. As Christ’s messengers, we should rely on this hope to focus our lives on the eternal and unchanging promise of salvation, practice the love of Christ, and spread the Gospel of Christ.

Faith: The Content of the Gospel

Paul praised the faith of believers in Colossians: because of the faith you have in Christ Jesus (Col. 1:4). This faith is complete trust in Christ, and this trust and obedience to Christ brings about a transformation in inner life. In the midst of a world filled with deceptive ideas and false prophets in Colossal at that time, pure faith in Jesus Christ was the foundation for changed lives. This is especially true for us who live in the end times. Pure faith connects us to truth and grace because Christ is the “Word” full of grace and truth.

Confidence inspires action. The faith of those who follow Christ will turn into selfless service and the motivation to spread the Gospel. This kind of faith also transcends the reality on earth, pointing to the hope that exists in heaven, allowing believers to bravely face the last days, when “love will grow cold, wickedness will increase, and many will suffer and be deceived for the Lord.” Strive for the Great Commission entrusted by Christ.

Love: The Fruit of the Gospel

Paul also mentioned the Colossian believers’ “love for all saints” (Col. 1:4). This kind of love inspired by the Holy Spirit is a sign of maturity as a Gospel-centered person. Love is the driving force for Christian disciples to serve the Lord and others, and it is also the fruit of life.

The love inspired by the Holy Spirit also promotes unity and solidarity in the body of Christ. When believers of different personalities and backgrounds come together in love, they bear witness to the world to the power and peace of the Gospel of Christ. Missionaries play a vital role in promoting this unity and solidarity, teaching local believers to love one another, and demonstrating the power of the Gospel to transcend human barriers.

Colossians 1 reminds us that the Gospel produces hope, and hope produces faith and love. As messengers of Christ, may each of us continue to grow in God’s grace and bring the light of hope, faith, and love of the Gospel to the communities we serve.

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PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Thank God for leading Pastor Alex Ko and his team to start worshipping with brothers and sisters in Polokwane and caring for the local Chinese. May the Lord lead the development of the local gospel ministry.
2. Thank God, all the ministries in December were completed smoothly. They had wonderful collaborations with brothers and sisters and other churches and came into contact with many Gospel friends. Please pray that the Lord will continue to lead them in the following-up and caring.
3. Pray for the Lord to guide them in their ministry plan for the new year. Please pray for more inquirers to attend the one-on-one faith class for them in late January and be able to believe in the Lord through the course.
4. Please pray for Pastor Xiu He You as he started serving at the Belo Horizonte Chinese Church, responsible for preaching two Sundays every month.
5. Pray for sister Claudia who started preaching once a month at Belo Church.
6. Pray for the discipleship class on Tuesdays and the CCF (Chines Christian Fellowship Bible study class on Thursdays.
7. Please pray for CIM Canada as they move forward in their ministry to the Roma. Pray for plans to send exploratory short-term mission teams to North Macedonia and Serbia.
8. Pray for CIM Canada's coworker Janice in Ghana as she continues with her ministry after her maternity leave. Pray that she can find balance between her work with CIM Canada, schooling, and caring for baby Lucy. Pray for her residence permit renewal and indefinite residence application to be approved in a timely manner. Pray for her husband's, Enoch's, family for the preparations for his dad's funeral in February.
9. Pray for the finances of CIM Ministries. Pray for new donors and a healthy general fund to run our ministries. In order to run our ministries effectively, we are currently seeking monthly donors.
10. Please continue to pray for the recruiting effort underway to fill job vacancies in CIM for a Director of Ministry to oversee STM and daily operations, and an Executive Director successor. If you know of anyone who is interested and qualifies, please contact us.
11. Pray that God will move more brothers and sisters to join the ministry so God's kingdom would be more prosperous. Pray for God's abundant provision for all the financial needs of CIM.

NOTE

Please call 408-596-4567 to contact CIM for questions or comments. Thank you for your continual support.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dec 2024

	Income	Expense	Balance
General	\$66,212	\$16,733	\$49,479
Missions	\$82,410	\$58,118	\$24,292
Total	<u>\$148,622</u>	<u>\$74,851</u>	<u>\$73,771</u>

To contribute to CIM ministries:

- 1) Make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA
- 2) Donate online via credit card, go to: www.cimusa.org Click on "Give" and follow directions. Thank you!



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