

BEFORE ALL ELSE [BAE]

COLOSSIANS 1:11-23 (NLT)

“We also pray that you will be strengthened with all His glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to His people, who live in the light. For He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins. Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and He holds all creation together. Christ is also the head of the church, which is His body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So He is first in everything. For God in all His fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross. This includes you who were once far away from God. You were His enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now He has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in His physical body. As a result, He has brought you into His own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don’t drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God’s servant to proclaim it.”

ALSO READ MATTHEW 6:24-33

REFLECT & EXAMINE:

1) Would you say that you live your life in such a way, currently, that displays that Christ is your number one priority? Is He the filter through which all things have to pass? Does He take top place in your heart and mind? Does He drive your decisions, actions, behaviors and loves? Would others say that Christ is supreme over your life and takes first place?

2) Does your giving drive your spending and your saving? Or does your spending and your saving drive your giving? Reflect on this as honestly as you can.

3) What one thing truly has the top spot in your financial picture? What might God be asking you to do about it?

4) What might it mean for you to give your “first and your best” to God in this next season? What specifically will that look like for you?

5) As you search your heart and are contemplating all you are reading and all God is saying, would you say you have a scarcity mindset, which feels the need to save and hoard as if God won't provide for your tomorrow; or an abundance mindset, believing that God is your provider, that you have no lack and there is always more than enough? How then does that cause you to live?

PRAY:

Father, silence all created voices and only allow me to hear from the uncreated voice, which is Yours. Father remove every idol that I place before you. May you be the King of my heart and of my home. Overwhelm me and my household in your presence and in your goodness that our heart may be captivated by You and You alone. May my love for you drive every decision, motive and commitment. Take first place in my heart, my mind, my life, my time and the resources you lavish upon me.

READING PLAN:

Monday: **Proverbs 3**

Tuesday: **Matthew 6:24-30**

Wednesday: **Luke 10:25-42**

Thursday: **Romans 12:1-21**

Friday: **Colossians 3:1-17**

Saturday: **Matthew 6:1-13**

SONGS FOR WORSHIP:

Have It All — Bethel Music & Brian Johnson

Stir A Passion — Worship Central & Josh Gauton

Build My Life — Housefires

Enough — Chris Tomlin

Jesus, You Alone — Highlands Worship

Christ Is Enough — Hillsong Worship

Nothing Else — Cody Carnes

Yours — Elevation Worship

King Of My Heart — Bethel Music & Steffany Gretzinger

So Will I (100 Billion X) — Hillsong Worship

More Like Jesus — Passion & Kristian Stanfill

Remembrance — Hillsong Worship

