

Expressing your Concern

How to tell another Christian your concern over their spiritual life

Colossians 2:1-7

Introduction:

Review:

#1-Express your _____ for them

Paul expresses His burden for a church he has never seen

1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf, and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have **not personally seen** my face

#2-Share your _____ to see them mature

Paul expresses his desire to see a Church mature in Christ

1st – Dedicate yourself to Biblical _____

2a that their hearts may be

Proverbs 23:7a For as he thinks within himself, so he is.

#1-Think in harmony with the intended meaning of each passage; the authorial intent.

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

#2-Think according to God's character.

Philippians 4:8 brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things.

2nd – Seek Loving _____

2b having been knit together in love,

3rd – Build Confident _____

2c and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding,

Ephesians 4:13 tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

4th – Know Christ _____

2d resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery,

1 John 2:14 *I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one*

#3-Point them to Christ, as the only _____

Paul points to Christ as the only solution for their needs

*that is, Christ Himself, 3 in whom **are** hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

#1-Christ is all you'll ever need

Ephesians 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

#2-Once in Christ, you need to pursue Christ

2 Peter 1:3 *seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*

#4-List the _____ for your concern and confidence in their genuine response

Paul shares his concern and encouragement

1st – The danger of Spiritual _____

4 *I say this in order that no one may delude you with persuasive argument*

Titus 1:9 *holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.*

2nd – His inability to help in _____

5a *For even though **I am absent** in body, nevertheless **I am with you** in spirit,*

3rd – His confidence in them to remain _____
5 rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

Philippians 1:6 *For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus*

#5-Point them to live in the same manner they did when they first _____ to Christ

Paul calls them to return to their first love

6 *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,*

Revelation 2:5 *'Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; ...*

#6-Remind them they have what it takes to become spiritually _____

Paul reminds them God will finish what He started

7 *having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.*

1 Thessalonians 5:24 *Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.*

Conclusion:

#1-Before you write your letter, ask yourself if someone should be _____ you.

#2-While you express your concern for others, commit to pursue biblical _____ yourself.

#3-As you write a letter of spiritual concern use Paul's _____ given here.