

Sunday 6th September 2026

Introduction To Paul's Letter & Prayer To Colossians – Val Morgan

Key Outcomes

The teaching emphasizes that spiritual maturity requires a "big picture" perspective—specifically the synergy between **gratitude** and **growth**—to avoid burnout and maintain a relationship with God. Believers are encouraged to seek the full knowledge of God's will to live lives that honor the Lord and produce "good fruit".

The Importance of the Big Picture

- **Vision over Detail:** Using Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel as an analogy, the teaching argues that a clear overall vision provides the endurance and focus needed to handle meticulous details.
- **Jesus' Example:** When commissioning his disciples, Jesus provided the "big picture" (making disciples of all nations) rather than prescribing specific administrative details like building styles or musical instruments.
- **Risk of Detail-Oriented:** Focusing on details without a broader vision can lead to exhaustion and distance from the Holy Spirit.

The Two Sides of Spiritual Maturity

The "big picture" is compared to a coin with two inseparable sides:

1. Gratitude (The Starting Point)

- **Foundation:** Gratitude is the beginning of the walk with God and is essential for maintaining a right relationship with the Father.
- **Sources of Thankfulness:**
 - **Forgiveness:** Gratitude for God providing a way to be restored from the separation caused by sin.
 - **Community:** Gratitude for the support and answered prayers within the church family.
- **Role of Hope:** Hope allows believers to continue loving others and blessing God even during darkness or when facing adversity.

2. Growth (The Result)

- **Spiritual Wisdom:** Growth involves being filled with the complete knowledge of God's will and spiritual understanding.
- **Practical Application:** This knowledge leads to living a life worthy of the Lord, which manifests as pleasing Him in every aspect of daily life, not just on Sundays.
- **Divine Empowerment:** Growth is supported by God's glorious power, which grants the believer endurance, patience, and joy.



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