## Christ Expressed Living: Faithful, Hopeful, Loving Churches

A Christian Community Is the Result of Christ's Faithful, Hopeful, Loving Life within Being Expressed through Us on Earth - Col 1:2-6; I Thess 1:1-3

In a Community of Faith, We Are Learning to Say What God Says - Col 1:4 (We are doing "life together" under the Word of Christ - Col 3:16-17)

- A passion for knowing Who God is Jo 17:3
  - ...we are conformed to the object(s) of our faith "You have heard it said... but I say to you..." Matt 5:21ff
- Where Truth sets the agenda Col 1:5,6; 3:10; Jo 8:31-36 ...we practice the "Holy But..." Matt 26:39; Lk 5:5
- Faithful people give gifts of faithfulness Matt 10:8; Col 1:7; 3:16; Matt 10:27
  - ...we help others listen to God Ro 10:17
  - ...we speak the truth in love Eph 4:15,25

In a Community of Hope, We Are Learning to See What God Sees - Col 3:1-2 (We are doing "life together" in the presence of God - Col 3:4)

- A passion for what is possible because of Who is with us Col 1:27; II Cor 1:10; I Tim 1:1 ...we practice the "Holy Because..." II Cor 2:14; Rev 21:5; I Jo 4:4; II Pet 1:3,4
- Where our fellowship with Christ and one another sets the tone I Jo 1:1-4; Heb 6:19 ...we share equally in His life I Cor 12:4-6,25
- Hopeful people give gifts of hopefulness Matt 10:8; Col 1:5
  - ... gifts of empathy II Cor 1:3-6
  - ...gifts of forbearance Ga 6:1-2; Eph 4:2
  - ...gifts for the need of the moment Ro 12:13

In a Community of Love, We Are Learning to Live as God Lives - Col 1:4; I Jo 4:8 (We are doing "life together" by seeking the best for one another - Phil 2:3,4)

- A passion for loving others into being Col 3:14
  - ...each for the other Col 4:12
  - ...stepping into the "way" of the cross Phil 2:7
- Where the love of God sets the course II Cor 5:14
  - ...for the community we are in Ro 13:10; I Jo 4:18
- Loving people give gifts of love I Jo 3:16
  - ... "fruit" baskets Col 1:6; Ga 5:22-23; Col 4:14
  - ...hospitality Col 4:15; Ro 12:13
  - ...picking up the "towel" Jo 13:4

Formed be faith, fortified by hope, fueled by love = living by the faithful, hopeful loving life of Christ!