



### Group Time

ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See last page for directions)



Y / N



Y / N



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### LOOK BACK:

*Point:* Children of light don't live in darkness.

- How's the journaling going?

**Question:** Is it more blessed to have children or grandchildren?

**LOOK UP:** Watch this week's video on the 4G web page.

**Recap:** In the first century Rome controlled all of Europe, East Asia, and North Africa. While there may have been plenty of oppression, it also offered opportunity. For the Gospel, Roman roads provided ease of travel. Roman authority provided relative peace. And Roman law provided a degree of systematic justice.

In Paul's letter to the Believers in Colossae, he addresses a church that he did not establish or even visit, but he disciplined the one who did (Epaphras). Paul has heard of their faith in Christ Jesus and their love for others because of their newfound hope in heaven through the receiving of the Gospel. His message to them is to stay true to their faith and the continued spread of the Gospel.

### LOOK IN: Discussion

Read Colossians 1:1-8.

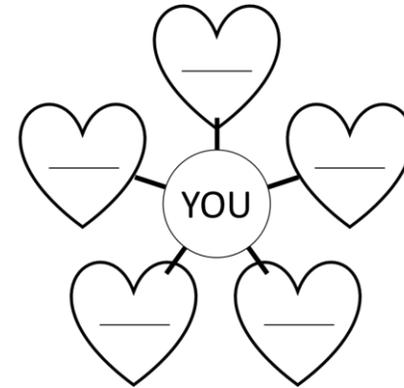
- It has been said that "parenting has its rewards, but one of the greatest rewards of children is grandchildren." How is discipleship similar?
- What kind of emotions do you think Paul experienced as he heard about the faith of those in Colossae?
- Reread verses 5-6. Faith in Christ Jesus gives us hope in an eternity in heaven and a desire to love others. How should we express this love? (Hint: The first two D's.) Be specific.

### LOOK FORWARD: Application

**Point:** *Because our faith and hope lead to love, the Gospel spreads.*

**Love by Demonstrating and Declaring. Disciple Others to Do the Same.**

List up to five persons you are intentionally demonstrating God's love to and put their names in the hearts around YOU.



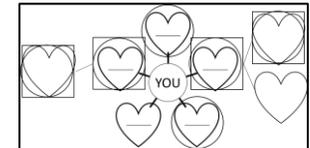
Next, circle the ones with whom you have declared/shared the good news of the Gospel.



Now, put a box around those who have placed their faith and hope in Jesus Christ and the gospel.



Finally, do the same process for each of those five you have listed by making hearts for their demonstrating love, circles for declaring, and boxes for accepting.



Which gives you greater joy, discipling others, or helping them disciple others?

What are some "Demonstrating God's Love and Declaring the Good News" activities your group could do together?