

COLOSSIANS



FOLLOWING JESUS

PRACTICE: BIBLE STUDY



GETTING TO KNOW THE AUTHOR

When we study the Bible, it is helpful to know the human author who was divinely inspired by God to write the particular book or letter. Sometimes we don't know the author, or the issue of authorship is debated among scholars. For instance, NT Wright and others contend that Paul is the author of Colossians while some scholars debate this conclusion. We'll stand with Wright on this and consider what it means that Paul wrote Colossians and what we can learn about Paul's own journey of faith. (Note: Wright covers the debate on authorship in his commentary).

Pray: Before you begin your study, pause for a conversation with God. Thank him for being present with you by his Spirit. Ask him to speak to you as you study.

Study: Who is Paul?

Record what you learn about Paul in these passages.

Acts 7:54-8:3

Acts 9:1-31

Galatians 1:11-24

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Colossians 1:1

Scholars on Paul: Pick at least one of these resources and record your observations

▶ **NT Wright on Paul's Background** (*video*)

[MENLO.CHURCH/PAULSBACKGROUND](https://menlo.church/paulsbackground)

▶ **Getting to Know the Apostle Paul** (*Podcast*)

[MENLO.CHURCH/KNOWPAUL](https://menlo.church/knowpaul)

▶ **Saul (Paul) and Subversive Christianity** (*Podcast*)

[MENLO.CHURCH/SUBVERSIVE](https://menlo.church/subversive)

▶ **Paul's Journey to Jerusalem** (*Podcast*)

[MENLO.CHURCH/PAULSJOURNEY](https://menlo.church/paulsjourney)

▶ **The Apostle Paul: Acts 8-12** (*video*)

[MENLO.CHURCH/THEAPOSTLEPAUL](https://menlo.church/theapostlepaul)

Worship: Pause to worship God as he has revealed himself in your study of Paul.

Living the Scripture: What is one thing you will do this week as a response to what God revealed to you through your study of Paul?

