

Secret Exposure

OPENING QUESTION

When you have a secret, who is one person you'd like to tell? (You choose the secret)

READ Colossians 1:1—29.

1. Why do people pray for you *(vs. 3)*?

- A. They don't.
- B. Because I need help.
- C. They thank God for me.
- D. I've asked them to pray for me.
- E. They've heard about my faith and love.
- F. They've heard about my church's faith and love.
- G. Because I pray for them—they're returning the favor.
- H. They know about my hope that's propelled by heaven.
- I. Other.

2. What is your source for loving others?

- A. I love only those who love me.
- B. I tap into the example of Jesus.
- C. My pastor and others at church prompt me to love.
- D. When I see other people I sense they deserve to be loved.
- E. It's the Holy Spirit.
- F. My desire for heaven.
- G. I feel so loved; I'm just passing it on (to anyone and everyone).
- H. Other.

3. Prioritize these 9 prayer requests *(1-9)* for someone to pray for you:

- _____ Know God's will for your life
- _____ Have spiritual wisdom and understanding
- _____ Endurance and patience
- _____ Live in a God-pleasing way
- _____ Forgiveness of sin(s)
- _____ Increased intimacy with God
- _____ A fruitful life for God and others
- _____ An easier life
- _____ Joy

4. How do you know God is real when you can't see or hear him?

- A. I have seen/heard God.
- B. Circumstances/Coincidences/Providence.
- C. The Bible makes God real to me.
- D. Nature—the created world.
- E. An active Holy Spirit.
- F. The life and ministry of Jesus.
- G. I just sense God to be real; I can't necessarily explain it.
- H. Other.

5. Why would people drift away from the assurance of salvation (vs. 23)?

- A. You can't really know about your salvation until Christ returns.
- B. I simply don't measure up.
- C. Feelings come and go.
- D. I doesn't always seem like I'm in God's presence.
- E. When I get busy with other things I "drift."
- F. It's easier to go with the flow than maintain connection with God.
- G. The lure of what the world offers.
- H. Things change with time.
- I. Other.

6. How do you explain the "secret" Christ lives in you!?

- A. That's a secret to me.
- B. It's just a fact—say it.
- C. My perspective and life changed when Jesus "came in."
- D. Christ is in me, but I'm not sure how alive He is right now.
- E. My suffering is proof.
- F. My joy is proof.
- G. I can't stop talking about Jesus.
- H. Other.

7. How has your life changed since you first grasped God's grace?

8. How did "Christ's blood on the cross" (vs. 19-20) reconcile everything to God? How does this affect you?