



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 1 — Colossians 1:1-14 — February 9, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- What tv series or streaming show are you currently watching? Why do you continue to watch the show? What is it about that show that makes you feel like it's never enough?
- Has anyone ever traveled to the Mediterranean region of the world? If yes, describe what it is like. If no one has traveled to the Mediterranean, what aspects of that part of the world would you want to see in person?
- Why and when did you begin attending Fellowship Bible Church (you may need to adapt this question if there are some in your group that don't attend Fellowship)? Why and when did you start attending the church which you currently attend? If you have been attending for a long time, why is Fellowship still your church?
- Share about when you first heard the gospel. Who first shared the good news of Jesus with you? Share the story of how you crossed the line of faith to become a Christian.
- Are there any situations or circumstances in your life that make you feel disqualified to be used by God?
- If you were going to write a letter to your church, what would it be about? What are some of the things that you are thankful for in that church? Think about 2-3 things and share them with the group.



GROW:

- Read through Colossians 1:1-14 together as a group and make some basic observations. Who is Paul with as he is writing Colossians? How does Paul describe himself? Who is he writing this letter to? How did Paul address them?

Fellowship Bible Church

www.fellowshiponline.com/dgroupleader



GROW (cont.):

- As you read this chapter, are there any verses that stand out to you? Why?
- In verse 2, Paul refers to the Colossians as “saints and faithful brothers in Christ.” What does this description indicate about these people? What would you expect to be true of their lives and relationships with one another?
- In this passage (v. 3-5), Paul is thankful for the faith, hope and love of the Colossians. Which of these three is the hardest for you? What area would you most like to see God transform in you?
- In verse 9, Paul tells the believers in Colossae that he has not ceased to pray for them. What is he praying for them? What does it look like to pray without ceasing?
- Think about verse 10, what does it mean to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord? What does that look like for us practically? What other passages in Scripture come to mind that can speak to this?
- The book of Colossians repeatedly brings us back to the supremacy of Christ. Spend a few minutes reflecting on verses 13-14. This is the reality of what Christ has done for you! How does it change the way we live our daily lives if we fully embrace this new reality?
- In what ways does Paul point the people of Colossae to the gospel of Jesus? What words does Paul use to describe the gospel? What do we learn about the Gospel through Paul’s prayer?



SHOW:

- Paul’s writings – and reference to Epaphras – make it clear there is to be the experience of learning in the Christian life. What have been some of your experiences that have helped you grow and increase in your knowledge of God?
- Is there any situation that you are walking through in life right now that you are struggling to believe that God is enough for you? What are the things, people, or places that you tend to use in your life to fill a void in your heart?
- Prayer is one of the important ways that we build one another up in Christ. Spend time together in your D group praying for one another as Paul prayed for the Colossians. You may want to keep your Bibles open to refer to the specific things you can ask God to do in the life of your brothers and sisters.
- Who can you come alongside and encourage by praying for them? Challenge yourself to pray the gospel over one person each day this coming week. Maybe text them to let them know what you are praying.
- Are there any practical steps that you need to take to grow in spiritual wisdom and understanding? Maybe reading the Bible regularly, praying with your spouse, memorizing a verse with a friend?
- Paul mentions a future hope that is waiting for believers in heaven. What is this hope? Is there a specific area of your life that needs to rest on that future hope? Share this with your D-Group.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 2 — Colossians 1:15-23 – February 16, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- Some people create great works of art like the Mona Lisa or beautiful architecture. Others are creative with less fanfare but still do creative things like putting together a Spotify playlist or unloading the dishwasher in the most efficient way. In what ways are you a creative person? What do you enjoy creating or making?
- Share with the group a funny story about building or assembling Christmas presents for your family. What went wrong?
- Would you rather tackle a home DIY project yourself or call a professional? Do these projects make you feel empowered or inadequate? Some people seem gifted to be able to make a 30-minute DIY project last four hours or longer. Share with the group about a DIY project that didn't go the way you first envisioned.
- Have you ever had the experience of not knowing what you were supposed to do? Ever had an experience where you didn't understand the purpose, or perhaps your purpose?
- Describe a time when you were lost, or a person was missing from the group and then was found? What were your feelings while this person was lost? How about when they were found?



GROW:

- Read through Colossians 1:15-23 out loud as a group. Ask group members to underline or highlight different pieces of this passage that jump out at them the most. Discuss which verses were underlined or highlighted.
- One of Paul's purpose in writing to the believers in Colossae is to address some new teaching that was not true. What clues do we get about the heresy (false teaching) being taught in Colossae? (For example, repeated or stressed words or ideas.)
- If you were to summarize Col. 1:15-17 in one sentence, what would it be? How about Col. 1:18-20? Now give Col. 1:21-23 a try. Maybe use a white board or a tablet that can be projected on a screen and have the group work together on this. Be creative.



GROW (cont.):

- Verse 16-17 says that all things have been created by and are held together by Christ. What are the implications for our worldview – how we live, how we use our time and resources, our view of marriage, etc.?
- Sometimes we fool ourselves into thinking that we have control over things in our lives that we simply do not have. Verse 17 says that in Jesus all things are held together. What do you need to hand over to Jesus and let him have control of? How does a verse like this embolden your trust of Jesus?
- What do you think verse 19 means when it says that all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell in Jesus? What other passages of Scripture jump out to you as you think about this verse? Compare this verse with Philippians 2:5-11.
- Paul moves from a general declaration of truth in vs. 20, “and through him [Jesus] to reconcile all things to himself [God],” to the very personal declaration in v. 22, “but now he [Jesus] has reconciled [you]...in order to present you...before him [God].” Talk about this personal reconciliation. Why do all things need to be reconciled before God? How is the reconciliation made possible? What does this say about the depth of God’s love for us?



SHOW:

- Pick one of the verses in this passage that would be a good reminder for you this week. How can you do something creative to make sure this verse is in front of you regularly? (ex. Create a screenshot on your phone of this verse and use it as your wallpaper, write it on an index card and put it in on the dash of your car, write it on your bathroom mirror with a dry erase marker)
- After reading and studying this passage, what stands out to you the most? What is something from this passage that you need to reflect on more? Is there anything that has helped you look at a situation in your life in a new way?
- The reconciliation of Jesus changes us, especially as we consider Jesus becoming preeminent in our life. What is an action or attitude within you that needs to change as you consider Jesus’s reconciliation?
- Does a passage of scripture like this motivate you to have a gospel conversation with someone who is not a Christian? What aspects of the gospel do you seem to emphasize the most? In what ways does this change after having a discussion over this passage?
- Is there a circumstance in your life right now that is tempting you to doubt the relevance or power of Jesus? Share this with the group.
- As we discussed this passage, did any songs come to mind? Sing a song or two that reflect the truths of this Colossians 1:15-23. Maybe use YouTube or Spotify to help guide your group in worship. (ex. All Things Together by Fellowship Music, In Christ Alone, Exalted Over All, Eternal King Left Heaven’s Throne).



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 3 — Colossians 1:24-2:5 — February 23, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- When you think about your childhood and adolescence, who were the three people who impacted you? Share a circumstance with one of those people that has most shaped who you are today?
- Have you ever been pranked? Most likely everyone has, even if it was scaring you when you came around a corner. Share about a time someone pranked or tricked you into believing something that wasn't true? What made you believe them?
- See if you can create a list as a group of at least 10 benefits you find in being a part of this D-Group. What are the most important three? Why or why not when you are choosing?
- Think of a time you or someone you know has suffered. What was the situation of your suffering, and how did you feel about it at the time? As you look back on that situation, do you feel any different now?
- Share with the group about a project or work situation that you are most proud about completing. As you think about how hard you worked, what made your efforts worthwhile?



GROW:

- Read through this passage out loud as a group. Stop and ask God to center your hearts on this passage and Paul's message. What is the importance in reading a letter like Colossians (consider 1 Tim. 4:8).
- Consider watching a video on this passage from [Louie Giglio on RightNow Media](http://www.louiegiglio.com) before you begin this discussion.



GROW (cont.):

- In Colossians 1:24, Paul talks about rejoicing in his sufferings. Why do you think he is able to rejoice in the midst of such difficulty? Where is his hope? What reason does he offer for why he rejoices?
- In Col 1:28-29, Paul indicates he is working hard--struggling, agonizing--to present everyone mature in Christ? Talk about the responsibility that Paul feels. Where do you feel this kind of responsibility, "to present someone mature in Christ"? What kind of fruit in the life of a Christ-follower would give evidence of maturing in Christ?
- How does v. 29 offer insight into the cooperative role of our efforts and God's power in fulfilling His purposes?
- In Colossians 2:1-4, Paul reveals that his concern for them is that they will be led astray by false teaching. How does Paul describe this? How do Christians guard against teaching that is not supported in Scripture? How does maturity in Christ protect believers from being led astray?
- What's the mystery of God Paul talks about in these verses? Compare these verses with Eph. 3:1-6. What is this mystery that Paul is referring to and how is it explained?
- Read Hebrews 10:19-25 together. According to these verses, how can we have assurance of salvation? In whom does our assurance rest? What are ways we can encourage others in this assurance? Are there any other passages that come to mind as you read Col. 1:24-2:5.



SHOW:

- Who can you come alongside to help them grow in Christ (think spouse, children, co-workers, friends)? What does the first step in this look like for you?
- As a D-Group, discuss your role in one another's lives when it comes to helping one another grow in Christ. What does your D-Group need to start doing or stop doing to better encourage one another?
- As you consider Paul's willingness to suffer so that others experience the benefits of Christ, what steps could you take to imitate Paul (FSK volunteer, mission's trip, service project, sharing the gospel, etc.)?
- Paul demonstrates an intentional effort for spiritual growth in this passage. How does this differ from works-based salvation? What is one step you can take to grow in Christ this week? How can your group be a support to you in your growth?
- Talk to someone you consider a mature Christian this week. Ask them what God has used to mature them as they've followed Christ. Take a moment to pray for them and their walk with Jesus.
- Ask God to transform the way you think about following Him. Pray the truth that Christ is in you would settle into your heart and mind this week.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 4 — Colossians 2:6-15 — March 1, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- Share a time or experience in your life when you really felt alive? (skydiving, cooking class in Italy, afternoon on the beach, wedding day, etc.) What made that moment so special and made you feel so alive?
- There is a saying that, “many people are living, but are not really alive?”. What do you think that phrase means? How have you seen this to be true or untrue?
- Have you ever been baptized? Why or why not? Talk about the time you were baptized. Where did it happen? What memories do you have of that time?
- Many of us held superstitions as a kid (don't step on a crack, “knock on wood”, etc.). Which ones did you hold to, in jest or in seriousness? Are there any that you hold to now, in jest or in all seriousness?
- Did you ever study philosophy? Maybe it was a class in college or during higher education. Describe what it was like for you being in that class.
- Take a few moments to share the story of when you surrendered your heart and life to follow Jesus? Describe your personal experience of getting to know Christ. Why did you decide to follow Jesus?



GROW:

- Read through this passage as a group. Are there any verses that stand out to you? Share some of your observations with the group.
- Paul opens this section with the imperative, “as you received...so walk...”. By what means does a person receive Christ? It is good when we study the Bible to allow Scripture to clarify itself. What other passages help describe this experience?



GROW (cont.):

- In verses 6-7, Paul tells us to “continue to live your lives in Him”. What does this mean? Read John 15:1-15 as a cross reference. What causes you to discontinue abiding in Christ? How do you continue to “live your lives in Him”?
- Paul references an overflow of thankfulness in verse 7. Where does this overflow come from? How have you experienced this overflow in your life?
- Paul’s concern for the church at Colossae was that they would be led away by false teaching or heresy (teaching not according to God’s word). Is there a way to easily recognize empty deceit or philosophy? What are things that fit in this category of warning that Paul gives to the Colossians? What are the “hollow and deceptive philosophy... and human tradition” of our day?
- As a group, reference verses 11-14 and make a list of everything that God has done! Write it out for everyone to see. Praise God together as a group for what God has done — not what WE have done.
- Are there any aspects of this passage that are difficult for you to believe? Identify those verses and share them with the group. In earlier passages, Paul called the believers to embrace the mystery of the gospel that has been revealed in Christ. How does this speak to the difficult beliefs?
- What are some of the obvious differences between well-known secular philosophies and Christianity? Describe a person who has been taken captive by philosophy and empty deceit. In what ways is a Christ-follower “rooted and built up in him”?



SHOW:

- Are there any traditions that you hold yourself or others to that you may need to lay aside because they are inhibiting Jesus from being “ENOUGH”? (See also Mark 7:6-7)
- Is there any guilt or shame from past sin that you are holding on to and not allowing the redemptive work of Jesus on the cross to be “ENOUGH”? Consider sharing this with your D-Group and ask them to come around you for support.
- After looking at this passage, what are some practical ways that you could encourage each other to abide in Christ?
- How will you guard yourself (and your D-Group) from being deceived by hollow philosophy, human tradition and spirituality rather than centered on Christ?
- How might you allow the truth and depth of this passage to be reflected in your life? How would a Christian see this evident in your life? How would someone who has yet to trust Christ see this evident in your life?
- How does this passage of scripture influence your prayer? God loves to hear his Word spoken among believers and offered as a prayer before Him. Consider praying this passage out loud as a D-Group.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 5 — Colossians 2:16-3:4 — March 8, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- In this passage, we're talking about how Jesus really is enough, and that our tendency towards legalism is dangerous because it puts unhealthy, unnecessary restrictions on our relationship with Jesus. What has been the most unnecessary rule, law, or regulation you've had to live with?
- If you had ultimate authority and no repercussions for one week, what's one rule you'd put in place, in addition to no cereal slurping allowed?
- Which do you lean towards in life, a planner lifestyle (getting all the boxes checked), or a more reactive lifestyle (just adjusting as you go)? What are areas of your life that demonstrate this?
- Share with the group a time that you felt judged. How did it make you feel to be judged by others? When is a time that you judged someone else? Be honest, we love each other here.
- Do you consider yourself to be a rule follower or a rebel or somewhere in between? Tell us about a time that you did not follow the rules? What was the outcome?
- Tell us about a time you had your heart set on something? Was it an experience, a possession, or a relationship? Did you ever get it? What did you do in order to get the item/achievement?



GROW:

- Read through Colossians 2:16-3:4 aloud as a group. Underline the verses that stand out the most to you. Share them with your group. Why do they stand out to you?
- The first verse in the section we're studying begins with "therefore," signaling our need to look back at the previous verses. How would you summarize in your own words the main points of Colossians so far?



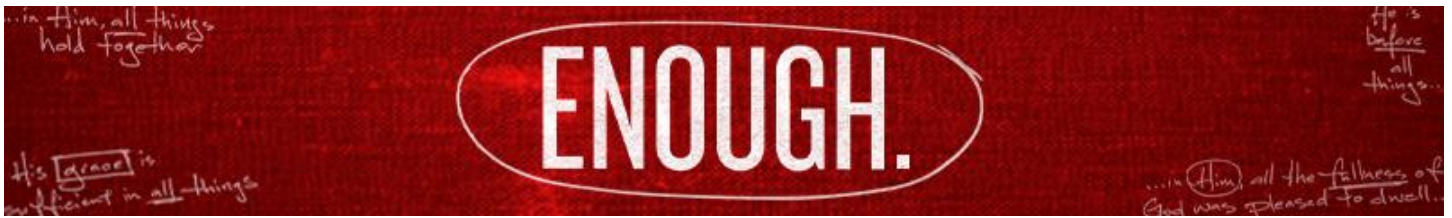
GROW (cont.):

- Colossians 3:2-3 are often quoted verses of the Bible. Many times, they are used as stand-alone verses. How do they fit in the context of this passage?
- What “shadows” were the Colossians trying to add to the reality of Christ? What shadows do we add to our faith today?
- What spiritual activity have you treated as a “salvation requirement,” and what does that say about your view of who Jesus is and what he can or cannot do? What religious practices do you think are overly valued in our church community? Would you say those practices have a foundation in Christ? Why or why not?
- Verse 23 talks about how a bunch of rules and regulations alone don’t actually cause us to overcome indulgences of the flesh (sin). How have you experienced this to be true in your life? Why do you think this is? What have you found is helpful in overcoming the flesh?
- What does it mean to be raised with Christ?
- In Colossians 3:2, Paul encourages the Christians of Colossae to set their minds on things above rather than earthly things. How do we set our heart on things above? What will our lives look like if we are doing this?
- Why is it so hard to believe that and live like Jesus is enough? Do you have a specific example in your life that you are struggling with?



SHOW:

- We’ve talked about some of the external religious practices, but what are some other areas that you have drifted away from Jesus? Don’t be afraid to think about this personally and share with your group.
- What do you need to do to remind yourself when you start living as if Jesus isn’t enough? Think of something specific. Share it with the group.
- What is the problem with religion that is based on following rules? Do you find this type of religion attractive? Why or why not?
- How would you explain to someone the difference between religion and a true relationship with God? Pray that God will show you opportunity this week to do this.
- What current situation in your life are you being challenged with the choice to set your mind on things above instead of on earthly things? How can we as a D-Group help encourage you in this situation?
- Spend the next week asking God every morning to show you where in your life you live as if he is not enough. Share the list with someone in the group and ask them to spend time praying for you in those areas.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 6 — Colossians 3:5-14 — March 15, 2020

Don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!



KNOW:

- Some people use clothing as an expression of themselves to the world. How much thought do you put into the clothes you purchase and wear? What do you want your clothes communicate about yourself to others?
- In this passage, Paul talks about putting off and on the new self almost like putting on new clothing. Have you ever put on the “wrong” thing and showed up somewhere under or overdressed? How did it make you feel being over-dressed/under-dressed?
- One of the best parts of playing dress up as a child was getting to act in a new way just because of a cape, tiara, or jersey. What did you like to dress up as when you were a kid? How about your kids, what do/did they like to dress up as?
- What are some things you “put on” that signal a change in your mindset? (Examples: putting on some music, the tea kettle, cozy loungewear) How does putting something like that on impact you?
- Do you have any bumper stickers or window decals on your car? Why or why not? What do bumper stickers and window decals communicate to other drivers? Of all that you've seen on the road, what has been your favorite? What is your least favorite?
- Life has a way of coming full circle, when you hear your parents' words coming out of your mouth when you are talking to your kids. What were some phrases that your parents said over and over when you were growing up? Have you ever caught yourself saying those same things to your kids?



GROW:

- Read this passage out loud as a group. As you read over this passage, what verses grab your attention? Is there anything that stands out to you or pricks your heart?



GROW (cont.):

- Paul describes life after receiving Christ as taking off the old self and putting on the new self. How would you describe your old self, or who you were before Jesus? Share with your group how have you changed since coming to Christ?
- What do you notice about the list of things that Paul challenges those in Christ to put off (verses 5-9)? Is there anything that shocks or surprises you?
- Why is it difficult to kill sin in your life? This may be asking you to be vulnerable in front of your small group – NEWS FLASH – we are all sinners; you’re not going to shock anybody. Share a time in your life when you had to take action to stop a sinful pattern in your life.
- Verse 11 reminds us of the unity we have in Jesus. His blood has redeemed all of us; none of us is above the other. How have you experienced the unity of the body of Christ? How have you seen this D-Group of church body come around you?
- Take a moment to dwell on the beginning of verse 12. You are chosen and loved by God. How does it feel to be chosen? How have you experienced God’s pleasure and delight in you recently?
- What do you notice about the list of things that Paul challenges those in Christ to put on (verses 12-14)? Is there anything that shocks or surprises you?
- In verse 14, Paul encourages the Colossians to clothe themselves with love above all else. Why do you think Paul tells the Colossians to put on love over all the other virtues he mentions? What is different about love? How does this compare with 1 Cor. 13:13?



SHOW:

- Think about your life and your relationships (home, work, neighbors). Is there any area that love is lacking? What practical steps could you take to do a better job demonstrating love?
- What’s one practical way you could take off the old self and put on the new self this week?
- Read Ephesians 4:23. Knowledge of God and His Word is an important piece of putting off the old self and putting on the new. What are some ways you could grow in the renewing of your mind personally, as a family, or as a group?
- The renewal of the new self is present tense, expressing a continuous process of renewal. Though we are to put off the old self, we also know that we are not complete until Heaven. How can we continue to encourage our D-Group to persevere?
- Reread verses 12-14. Paul reminds us that we are not only chosen and dearly loved, but we are called to be holy. Holy means to be set apart. What about the new self will make us “set apart” in our culture?
- Action Step: Every time you get dressed or change clothes this week, reflect on what it means to take off the old self and put on the new self. Pray God would continue to remind you that you have been made new in Christ.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 7 — Colossians 3:5-17 — March 22, 2020

Special Note:

During this remarkable time, we encourage your D-Groups to gather virtually and stay connected even though you can't meet in person. Your meetings will probably be shorter and there may be some awkward technology moments. It's

OK – push through! Because meeting will feel different, we are reducing the number of questions each week. As always, don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!

Begin your time by asking these questions:

- How are you processing everything that is happening right now?
- What have you and your family done differently during this time?
- How can our group pray for you during this unique time?

Consider beginning with prayer. This way people aren't feeling the urge to pray just to get off the meeting. Here is a simple prayer guide to consider:

- [Coronavirus Prayer Guide](#)



KNOW:

- What fears have crept in your mind this past week? How are you finding peace in the midst of this unknown time?
- When you think of simple or practical ways to help others, what are small ways you've had people help you that made a huge impact on your life?
- Do you have any bumper stickers or window decals on your car? Why or why not? What do bumper stickers and window decals communicate to other drivers? Of all that you've seen on the road, what has been your favorite? What is your least favorite?



GROW:

- Read over this passage as a group. Are there any particular verses that grab your attention? Is there anything that stands out to you or pricks your heart?
- Paul describes life after receiving Christ as taking off the old self and putting on the new self. How would you describe your old self, or who you were before Jesus? Share with your group how have you changed since coming to Christ?
- Think about verses 15-17, what seems significant about doing these things in the context of community as opposed to in isolation? Why would Paul give this encouragement?
- Paul tells us that everything we do should be done in the name of the Lord. What would this look like at home? At work? At church? With friends?



SHOW:

- How have you experienced the peace that only Christ can bring in your life? Do you have any specific examples of a time or situation when you felt that knowing Christ brought you a peace you would not have otherwise felt?
- What have you been dwelling on this past week? What are some practical ways you can let the word of Christ dwell in you? Is there one way you can let the Word of God to fill you this week?
- Embrace the awkwardness of your virtual D-Group meeting and end your time singing a song of worship together.



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 8 — Colossians 3:18-4:1 — March 29, 2020

Special Note:

During this remarkable time, we encourage your D-Groups to gather virtually and stay connected even though you can't meet in person. Your meetings will probably be shorter and there may be some awkward technology moments. It's

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Begin your time by asking these questions:

- How are you processing everything that is happening right now?
- What have you and your family done differently during this time?
- How can our group pray for you during this unique time?

Consider beginning with prayer. This way people aren't feeling the urge to pray just to get off the meeting. Here is a simple prayer guide to consider:

- [Coronavirus Prayer Guide](#)

KNOW:

- Do you think most people enjoy their job? Why or why not? How is work a blessing? When is it burdensome or frustrating?
- We often talk about our “pet peeves” – things people do that rub us the wrong way. The reverse of this is “simple joys” – small acts or happenings that bring us immense joy. What are some of your “simple joys”?



KNOW (Cont'd):

- What were some of the rules in your household when you were growing up? Think about a rule that you broke the most or the funniest rule your parents had. How did your parents deal with broken rules? What are some rules or ways of life you have implemented in your household?



GROW:

- Read Colossians 3:18 - 4:1 together as a D-Group. Are there any phrases or pieces of this passage that stands out to you? How does this passage fit with the previous parts of Colossians we have read?
- The elephant in the room of this passage is the word “submit” in v. 18. “Submission” is a military term, painting the picture of a soldier yielding to the authority of another. It does not discount the opinion or preference but puts the will of the general above the will of the soldier. What are some other passages that reflect on Jesus’ attitude of submission? Read and discuss those.
- Describe Paul’s instructions to wives, husbands, and children in your own words in verses 18-21. How is each instruction unique? Why are these verses often seen as controversial rather than as a picture of the biblical roles in a family?
- Read Colossians 3:23-24 again. Our work should be an act of worship to our Lord. How does seeing work in this way (as for the Lord) transform your approach to work? When it comes to our jobs and careers, we often think of ourselves as either small and unimportant or large and overly important, what does verse 23 say about the type of work we do and how we should do it?



SHOW:

- What are areas of your own life that are not submitted to Christ? How do you know? Try to use Scripture in your answer – God’s word is what we want to be submitted to!
- Think specifically about your role in the family. As you reflect on this passage from Colossians, what things do you need to repent of and seek forgiveness for today? What are some things that come to your mind that need attention? Is it time to talk with a trusted friend, pastor, or counselor? What steps can you take this week to make that happen?
- What is your love language? There are 5: acts of service, words, physical touch, gifts, and quality time. What about these love languages makes you feel special? How do you like to express love for your family, friends, co-workers, etc.? How can you speak love to your spouse, children, coworkers, or others you interact with this week?



Sermon Discussion Curriculum

Week 9 — Colossians 4:2-18 — April 5, 2020

Special Note:

During this remarkable time, we encourage your D-Groups to gather virtually and stay connected even though you can't meet in person. Your meetings will probably be shorter and there may be some awkward technology moments. It's

OK – push through! Because meeting will feel different, we are reducing the number of questions each week. As always, don't feel like you must use all of the questions in each section. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose the ones from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. We have prayed for you as you lead your D-Group today!

Begin your time by asking these questions:

- How are you processing everything that is happening right now?
- What have you and your family done differently during this time?
- How can our group pray for you during this unique time?

Consider beginning with prayer. This way people aren't feeling the urge to pray just to get off the meeting. Here is a simple prayer guide to consider:

- [Coronavirus Prayer Guide](#)



KNOW:

- Amid the uncertainties and changes brought about by the Covid-19 Crisis, what are some of the major fears, challenges, and practical changes you have faced? What are some things for which you are thankful?
- If you were to identify a group of people who have encouraged you in your faith, who would that be? How do each of these people encourage you in your walk with the Lord?



KNOW (Cont'd):

- Statistics show, that despite technology, the annual retail sales of greeting cards are estimated at more than \$7.5 billion. The average household buys thirty individual greeting cards a year. Have you ever received a letter or card from someone you love? Did you save it, frame it, or have you kept it somewhere special? Why was this card so special to you?



GROW:

- Spend some time reading this passage out loud as a group together. Are there any verses that stand out to you? Identify the two major sections of this passage. What is the purpose of each?
- What are some of the encouragements of Paul in verses 2-6? What does it mean to be, “steadfast” and “watchful” in prayer? The word wisdom in v. 5 carries the idea of “living skillfully”. What are some skills a Christ follower can develop to make the most of every opportunity to share the gospel of Jesus with others?
- Talk about verses 5-6 with your D-Group. What is the wise way to act towards outsiders? Why do we need to be wise in the way we act towards outsiders? What does Paul mean when he writes, “Let your speech always be gracious”?
- In verses 7-18, Paul references ten people in the context of ministry. What does this teach about Paul’s leadership style and model for Christian ministry?



SHOW:

- S. D. Gordon wrote, “the greatest thing anyone can do for God and for man is to pray. You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed.” Take a look at Fellowship’s [Missions Guidebook](#) and pray as a group for one or two missionaries around the world right now. They are also experiencing complications from COVID-19 and their ministries have been affected. Use this passage as a model for your prayer.
- Who are some people who were instrumental in the building of your faith? How has God used them to help shape what you believe now? Take a few minutes this week to write them an email, give them a call, or zoom with them to tell and thank them for how instrumental they have been in your life.
- In what settings are non-Christians exposed to you? How would they know that you are a devoted follower of Christ? Would your actions and conversations point them to Christ? As a group, how can we devote ourselves to prayer for these people?