



Class 9 ~ Colossians

Homework for week of 10.23 – 10.29

Videos we watched in class:

Read Scripture Colossians

<https://youtu.be/pXTXIDxQsvc>

The Gospel of the Kingdom

<https://youtu.be/xmFPS0f-kzs>

Homework:

Everyday: Pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Bible will come alive to you and will not only teach you the Gospel but will help you live your life as a follower of Christ. Ask Him for an unquenchable thirst for His word and for spending time with Him. Confess to Him any sins that are hindering you.

Day 1 – Read Colossians 1

What is remarkable about the power that Paul prays for (Colossians 1:11-14)? See also Ephesians 1:18-20. Why do we get this power? What did this same power do for Jesus?

It's pretty amazing to think about...God bestows it upon believers as an inheritance. It enables us to endure even with joy our life this side of Heaven. It is

transforming to help us become more and more like Christ. It is the very power that saves and forgives our souls and gives us the promise of being part of God's kingdom forever.

Day 2 – Read Colossians 2

Look back at Colossians 2:4. What are some reasons people would want to deceive us?

If someone is a false teacher, what is the most obvious way to tell?

Paul did not want the Colossians to be deceived by the persuasive rhetoric of false teachers which assaulted the character and person of Christ. That is why throughout chapters 1 and 2, he stressed Christ's deity, and His sufficiency both to save believers and bring them to spiritual maturity. How can we avoid being deceived by false teachers?

Day 3 – Read Colossians 3

What is to be our work ethic according to this chapter?

Our work is not to be just to work to get a raise or just enough so that we don't get fired but working diligently, going the extra mile, so that we please the Lord. We need to honor Him with our work ethic! And this means working inside and outside the home and even your volunteer and ministry work! Yes, all of our work!

What is to be the motivation to have the right attitude toward our work? How would it be different to work for the Lord? (Colossians 3:24)

Think about it! Our goal for work is not material but a spiritual inheritance. We are to serve Christ in our workplace. Others should see Christ reflected in our work and attitudes. We will receive not just material rewards but an inheritance for His kingdom after this earthly existence is over.

Day 4 – Read Colossians 4

Look at Colossians 4:2-4. How would you describe your prayer life? (e.g., intense, lukewarm, sporadic, frustrating...)

How would you like your prayer life to be different?

Paul's encouragement is for the Colossian believers to 'devote themselves' to prayer. The implication is that prayer is something that won't always come easily or naturally but is a practice that we should commit ourselves to. What are some of the practical ways you can devote yourself to prayer?

Why do you think Paul adds being watchful and being thankful when praying?

Paul is in prison, and yet his request is for the Colossian believers to pray that he has more opportunities to share the Gospel and for God's help that he would make the most of those opportunities by speaking the message clearly! How does Paul's example inspire you to be more content in your current circumstances and more committed to Christ's mission?

Who are the specific people or situations that you are praying for at the moment for opportunities to share the Gospel with? Who/what can you add to this list this week?

Day 5 – Re-read your favorite passage from Colossians in a different version of the Bible and see if it gives you more insight.

Look again at chapter 4...verses 5 and 6.

Why do we need to be wise in the way we act towards outsiders? What is the wise way to act towards outsiders? What are the opportunities that Paul is referring to?

Think about how your life is seen through the eyes of your non-Christian friends, family and acquaintances? What areas or ways might you need to be more bold? Show more of Christ's character?

What would it look like for our conversations with each other to be always full of grace? Does that mean we can only talk specifically about God stuff, or is Paul instructing a certain quality to our conversation that honors God and prompts opportunities with 'outsiders'?

Having a conversation 'seasoned with salt' is a slightly weird instruction. What do you think Paul means by this?

How have you seen 'salty' comments used well to steer a conversation to Christ (either personally or witnessed in others)? How can we practice this without it being contrived or making others feel as if we are forcing the conversation to faith?