

LG | Leader

[Colossians 3:1-17]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

Prepare your mind to receive God's word. Take a moment to be silent. Pray for your mind to receive God's Word.

After hearing the sermon from Sunday, what most resonated with you? What were the takeaways for your family as a whole?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Read our primary text. Let's gain some context for this passage. Who is the author and audience?

Who recalls the theme and purpose of Colossians? [These are important questions to answer as you jump into the middle of a book]

Colossians is one of four prison epistles written by Paul for the church in Colossae. The church is dealing with false teachers that have infiltrated, spreading a false gospel. Paul uses this letter to refute these false teachers and bring clarity on who the real Christ is.

2. What does it mean to be "raised with Christ"? Where in this book could we find clarity for this verse?

When seeking to find clarity of a text, a good rule of thumb is to seek answers in concentric circles; beginning with chapter, book, author, then testament. In the previous chapter, specifically 2:13-14 is says this, "And you, **who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him having forgiven us all our trespasses**, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

3. Verses 3 and 4 use terms like "hidden" and "appear." How are we hidden with Christ and then appear with Christ?

Those who have saving faith are hidden or secure in Christ. This verbiage is also used in Isaiah and the Psalms. Those same believers will find their perfection in glory when Christ appears in His return.

4. Verses 5-11 speaks of a theological term that is used often in church. Based on this block of text, what do you think that term is? What lead you to this conclusion?

Sanctification. Sanctification is a theological term, but it is also a biblical term (see 1 Thess 4:3). It is the process in which all believers are being renewed by the Holy Spirit so that they may be set apart in holiness for the purposes of God.

5. Why is it so important that the word of Christ dwell in you richly? How does Paul answer this question for us?

In verse 16, Paul explains why it is so important for God's word to be imbedded in our hearts; specifically for teaching and admonishing each other. We can fan God's word into flame by "singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in our hearts to God."

6. After Sunday's message and studying this text, how has the term admonition changed for you?

[Discussion]

7. Verses 12-17 give us an idea of what a Christian should look like? What are some of the characteristics that Paul uses in this text? Is this how your friends and family would describe you?

Compassionate, kind, humble, meek, patient, forbearing, forgiving, thankful and above all...loving.

8. If you had to choose one verse from this text to be your life anthem, what would it be? Why?

[Example: Verse 17]

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.