

Leader Corner

Names of the Faith

Colossians 4:10-18

Main Idea: Being a Christ follower is not a life lived in isolation. The Christian community involves supporting, loving, encouraging and praying for each other.

Main Practice: Celebrating our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Main Teaching: Colossians 4:10-18

Refocus

with Praise

Read Psalm 133:1-3 and contemplate the truth of this short Psalm.

with

Prayer

Have someone pray for your time together and this discussion. Pray especially in thanks to God for faithful Christians who have continued to point you toward Jesus.

1. Have someone read aloud Colossians 4:10-18.

2. Discuss any insights or questions you had after hearing Sunday's sermon.

3. In these final eight verses of Colossians, ten different names are mentioned. Paul's thankfulness for these co-workers in his life is evident. Can you think of other places in scripture where Paul's gratefulness for others is presented? Useful scriptures: Romans 1:8-12, Ephesians 1:15-16, Philippians 1:3-7, and Colossians 1:3-4.

4. By listing these other helpers, Paul is admitting that he cannot do everything by himself. He needs help. Self-pride has given way to grateful collaboration with others. What scriptures support this view? See Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12, Galatians 6:2-3, Ephesians 4:1-4, Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Thessalonians 5:11.

5. What does the Bible say about our need for and celebration of others in the Kingdom of God? Helpful verses: Romans 12:3-8, 1 Corinthians 3:5-9, 12:12-26, 1 Peter 4:10.

6. In verse 12 of today's scripture verses, we read about the importance of praying for others. What are some reasons we pray for others? See these verses: Luke 11:11-13, Romans 10:1, Ephesians 6:18-20, Colossians 4:2-4, 1 Timothy 2:1-4.

with

Practice

Who are you thankful for? Who does work in God's Kingdom alongside you? Who does work for Christ that you are not gifted to do? What Kingdom work needs your support? For all of these questions, thank God for these people and pray specifically for them.

For Further Focus

Two names mentioned in today's scripture; Mark (v.10) and Demas (v.14) had their ups and downs in the work of the early church. Mark returned to Paul's good graces (see Acts 15:37-39 and 2 Timothy 4:11) but Demas never returned (2 Timothy 4:10). Discuss the possibility of disagreements and false faith in the world. Helpful scriptures: Matthew 7:21-23, 13:3-9+18-23, 24:24.