

Colossians Lesson 6—Colossians 3:18–4:18

Living in Community



Memorize the TRUTH!

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24

DAY 1: Colossians 3:18-21—Family Relationships

1. From these verses, how is a wife supposed to relate to her husband? What does Ephesians 5:33 add to these instructions?
2. How should a husband love his wife? (See also Ephesians 5:25-30.)
3. From Colossians 3:20, what reason did Paul give for why children should obey their parents? (See also Ephesians 6:1-3 for some other reasons.)
4. What are fathers not supposed to do, and why not? (See also Ephesians 6:4 for instructions about what are fathers supposed to do.) When fathers follow these instructions, how are children more likely to respond?

DAY 2: Colossians 3:22–4:1—Work Relationships

5. Using only a word or a short phrase, describe Paul's instructions to a) bondservants and b) masters.
6. From 3:22, how were bondservants to relate to their masters? What was their motivation to do this?
7. According to 4:1, how were masters supposed to treat their bondservants? What knowledge should have helped them do this?
8. How should the concepts expressed in this passage affect the behaviors, heart attitudes, and working relationships of believing employees and employers today?



Learn the TRUTH!

Later in this passage, we'll see Paul asking his fellow believers to pray for him (see 4:2-4). Do you know of at least one person you could ask to pray regularly for you? Is there any part of Paul's request that you would like that person to pray in your behalf? Plan to talk about this with your small group.

DAY 3: Colossians 4:2-6—Walking in Wisdom

9. From 4:2, how did Paul instruct the Colossians to pray?

10. Recall that Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter. What did he ask the Colossians to pray about? What does this kind of request reveal about his priorities?
11. According to 4:5-6, how did Paul want the Colossians to interact with “outsiders”?
12. Considering Paul’s priorities and prayer requests, why would he have given the instructions recorded in 4:5-6?

DAY 4: Colossians 4:7-9—Beloved Brothers

13. Who was going to deliver Paul’s letter to the Colossians? Besides taking the letter, for what purposes did Paul send them?
14. How did Paul describe these two men?
15. What do these descriptions imply about his feelings toward them?

DAY 5: Colossians 4:10-18—Final Greetings

16. Besides Paul, who sent greetings to the Colossians? Next to each of their names, write brief descriptions of these people from Paul’s point of view (for example, “my fellow prisoner”).
17. How would you describe the way Epaphras prayed for the Colossians? How does the way he prayed challenge or encourage you?
18. In your own words, what was Paul’s message to Archippus? Could this message apply to you in any way? If so, how?



Apply the TRUTH!

Paul told believers to “walk in wisdom toward outsiders” (4:5). How could you be more intentional about interacting with people who don’t share your beliefs and about getting ready to answer their questions concerning Christ? Plan to talk with your small group about some ideas.

DAY 6: Participate in Class