Small Group Discussion Guide (Week of May 19, 2024)

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer.

- I. The theme of the book of Colossians is *the supremacy of Christ*. Apparently, this church is being challenged both by Judaism ("Judaizers like the Galatians") and a secular philosophy known as "gnosticism". Read *Colossians 2:16-23*. What are some of the teachings Paul warns against in this passage? Do we see any of these kinds of ideas challenging pure Christians doctrines today? Be specific.
- II. Now go back and read Paul's prayer for the Colossians in *chapter 1:9-12*. What specific thigs is he praying for them and how could this help them combat false doctines?
- III. Let's look at two passages that highlight the divinity of Jesus Christ. Read <u>Colossians 1:13-20</u>. As a group, list what we learn about Jesus in these verses. Note <u>John 1:1-5</u>, <u>14</u>.

Now read <u>Colossians 2:8-15</u>. Again list what we learn about Christ. Note <u>Hebrews 1:1-4</u>. Go back to <u>2:13-15</u> and discuss some of the implications of this passage for us and our eternal redemption (especially the forgiveness of all our sins, cancelling the written code and disarming powers and authorities).

IV. Finally, let's highlight the simple principle of "putting off" and "putting on". Read *Colossians 3:4-11*. What sort of things are we told to put off (get rid of, put to death). Talk about practical ways that someone who grew up a non-Christian can reform their life from bad practices. Now read *Colossians 3:12-14*. What sorts of things are we now to put on (add). Again how can we consciously "clothe ourselves" with these?

<u>Chapter 3:15-17</u> gives a good concludes to this sectin. Read this passage and take some time to pray that God peace and gratitude would also characterize your life. Note <u>Colossians 4:2</u> as a way to fortify our spiritual lives by devoting ourselves to prayer.



At the Church

Wednesday at 3:30 pm Meets at BGCC Contact: Greg Maertin

419.345.4022

Bronson

Thursday at 3:00 pm 389 Bawden Road Contact: AnnaMae Wickey

517.369.6229

Coldwater

Wednesday at 7:00 pm 571 Scott Drive Contact: Scott Carpenter 517.617.3376

Celebrate Recovery

Thursday at 6:30 pm 309 West Chicago Rd Contact: Matt Siefken 517.945.3309

East Gilead

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. 126 West Thompson Road Contact: Pastor Jim

517.756.8001