



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Sermon Title: “*TEACH AND ADMONISH ONE ANOTHER*”

Scripture: Colossians 3:16-17

Date: November 8th, 2015

STORIES OF FAITH

As you begin your time together, invite the group to share ‘*Evidences of God’s Grace*’ that you have experienced or observed this week. This helps draw our attention to what God is doing in the everyday routines of life, brings Him glory, and allows us to encourage each other where we see fruitful growth in one another.

OPENING COMMENT

It has been said, “The gospel isn’t simply the ABC’s of Christianity, but the A-through-Z”. We never graduate from the message of the gospel. Instead, we grow more deeply in it. The text we study this week begins and ends in the good news of Jesus. This good news is to dwell among us (gospel), be taught to one another (discipleship), rejoiced in (gratitude), and lived out in every aspect of life (mission).

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:16-17)

WORKING THROUGH THE PASSAGE

1. The Gospel: *the word of Christ*

The word of Christ should dwell (take up permanent residence) in our lives and in our gatherings as the centerpiece of everything.

- What are some ways in which we can ensure that the gospel is the *one song* we sing as individuals, a life group, and church?
- Has it been your experience that the gospel is not simply the A-B-C’s of Christianity but the A-through-Z? How have you come to see the gospel, not simply as a kiddie-pool, but as a vast ocean?

2. Discipleship: *teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom*

Jesus (Col 1:22-23) and the Apostle Paul (Col 1:28) want to present us mature in the faith. That we would grow up from milk to solid food (Heb 5:12).

- Do you find that you have been given adequate tools to feed yourself in the word of God and teach others?
- Given that we are a multigenerational church (with older and younger individuals + more and less mature in the faith) how might you as individuals connect with those further ahead and behind you in the journey of faith?
- Read this statement: *We grow best as we help one another grow.* Share with each other how you have found that to be true in your life.

3. Gratitude: *with thankfulness in your hearts...giving thanks to God*

Pastor Matt made the case that songs matter for at least 3 reasons in the church:

1. Music stirs our affections for Christ in a powerful and unique way
 2. Singing allows us to minister the Word to each other corporately, encouraging each other as we raise our collective voices
 3. Songs are a fantastic avenue of theological training
- Share with each other what sort of impact corporate worship through song has had on you.
 - Read Isaiah 29:13. How do we approach our study of God's Word and our singing of worship in a way that engages our hearts with gratitude and thanksgiving and does not become simply disengaged routine and duty?

4. Mission: *whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus*

When the gospel is at the centre of it all, we teach and are taught/growing in our knowledge of Christ, and it produces thankfulness, we engage as Christians in every day life. Jesus goes with us wherever we go. Part of our growth in the gospel is how to live as followers in all circumstances, whatever we do. We work *in the name of the Lord Jesus*. Our leisure is done *in the name of the Lord Jesus*. Our friendships and family relationships are engaged *in the name of the Lord Jesus*.

- Dialogue about how that would work itself out practically in the various elements of your lives.

SHARE & PRAY

Pray for our maturing in the faith and growth in feeding ourselves from God's Word

Pray for a growing awareness of our discipleship being in all of life.

Pray for any other needs among you as a group.

Christmas season is coming and is a time when many are open to hearing the Gospel message. What are some missional opportunities that your group can start praying about? What can you do together and/or as individuals to impact the community with the love of Jesus this Christmas?