

## SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What was the most significant thing you learned from the sermon or something in the sermon you didn't quite understand?

### INTRO

Who is someone in your life that has helped you follow Christ better and what did they do that made the difference?

Are the people you are closest to right now helping you grow in Christ?

### DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 4:7-18

- How can we tell that Paul places an extremely high value on relationships?
- What do we learn about encouragement from the way Paul praises some of the people he mentions?
- Paul highlights the sacrifice, suffering, and hard work of Epaphras. He specifically mentions his prayer life. What does it mean to always struggle in prayer?
- Why would Paul mention that he wrote this greeting with his own hand?
- Paul recognizes that it's God's will that he teach the gospel to these fledgling churches in order to instruct them how to walk, to build them up, and to further establish them (Colossians 2:6-7). How important is it that we read, know, and apply what Paul has written?

### TAKEAWAYS

#### THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST IS ALL-SUFFICIENT

*1 Corinthians 15:10; 2 Corinthians 12:9; 2 Peter 3:18*

- Brad quoted Spurgeon saying, "We should long ago have ruined ourselves... if Christ had not kept us by his almighty grace." When you look back over your life, where is it obvious that you've been kept by Christ, not just carried along by your own strength?
- Grace isn't just something you received, but something you're increasing in. In what specific way is your dependence on grace greater now than it was a year ago?

#### THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS CHRIST IS INEXHAUSTIBLE

*Colossians 1:15-20; Romans 11:33*

- Where in your life are you functionally treating Jesus as important, but not actually supreme? Is there something else (your comfort, your plans, your fears) still calling the shots?

"Oh, the depth..." His wisdom and knowledge are beyond tracing out. When was the last time you were genuinely awed by Christ, not just informed about Him?

Brad quoted Mez McConnell saying "We will never know Him enough... we can never get too close to Him." What is one way your pursuit of Jesus needs to deepen beyond where it is today?

### KNOWLEDGE APPLIED

What does this teach us about people? About Jesus? How will we better obey Christ based on what we've just learned? Who will we share this with?