

**Main Idea:** The glories of Christ transform the lives of His people.

### Context of Colossians

- **Author:** Paul
- **Audience:** The church in Colossae
- **Situation:** Paul responds to Epaphras's reports about false teaching in the church at Colossae.

### The Glories of Christ (1:15-23)

- The image of the invisible God
- The firstborn of all creation
- The creator of all things
- The purpose of all things
- The sustainer of all things
- The source of the church
- The savior of the world

### The Transformed Lives of His People (3:1-17)

- Set your minds on the things of God
- Put to death the sin that tempts you
- Cultivate godly character together

### Context of Philemon

- **Author:** Paul
- **Audience:** Philemon
- **Situation:** Philemon's runaway slave, Onesimus, has been saved through Paul's ministry. Now Paul sends him with a letter to his former master, with instructions about how to receive him.

### The encouragement of a faithful brother (4-7)

- Philemon lives with love and faith
- Paul is encouraged by his faithfulness

### A challenge to a faithful brother (8-25)

- Mature believers can often be asked instead of told (8-9)
- Our faith re-identifies us into the family of God (10-16)
- The generous grace we have received results in generous grace we can give (17-20)

**Main Idea:** The glories of Christ transform the lives of His people.

**Intro Question:** If someone asked you who Jesus is, what would you say?

## Teaching Part 1

### The Glories of Christ (1:15-23)

**Read Colossians 1:15-17. Do you think of Jesus in this glorious way? What are some ways we might be tempted to describe Jesus that are different from this description?**

- We often think of Jesus as something less than the Almighty God. Because we see Him as a human who humbled Himself to obedience, we forget that He is the Creator, Sustainer, and God of all things. He is worthy of our worship. He is also worthy of our trust. We can put our faith in Him knowing not only that He loves us, but that in His greatness, He will not fail to care for us as He has promised.

### The Transformed Lives of His People (3)

**What are you setting your minds on? What practical steps can you take to set your mind on the things of God more consistently?**

- Our minds are often occupied with school, sports, friends, entertainment, money, fear, and many other worldly things. We can set our minds on the things of God by seeking Him together in spiritual disciplines. Working together to know the Bible, pray fervently, serve selflessly, and evangelize urgently helps our focus to not be on temporary things that don't matter eternally.

## Teaching Part 2

### The encouragement of a faithful brother (4-7)

**Does your friendship produce joy, comfort, and refreshment in those around you? How can you live in a way that encourages others?**

- Philemon is encouraging to Paul and others because He is clearly loving Jesus and his brothers and sisters in Christ. His love and faith are evident in the way he is living his life. As we try to imitate Jesus' self-sacrificing love and we live with faith in the promises of God, not only our own lives benefit, but the lives of the people around us.

### A challenge to a faithful brother (8-25)

**Paul is willing to lose money and other things for the sake of his brother in Christ. He also calls Philemon to the same mindset. What do you think God might want you to be okay with losing for the sake your brothers or sisters in Christ?**

- There are times when we are called to lose time, money, energy, comfort, and more for the sake of our brothers and sisters in Christ. But we have to learn to put the spiritual well-being of others before our selfish desires. There are many things that we feel entitled to that God might ask us to give up for the good of others. We should not respond with grumbling or demands about what we are entitled to. We should gladly give whatever it costs for the good of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Answer to Remember:** The letters of the New Testament are God's inspired instructions to His people about the gospel, the Christian life, and the Church.

## Context of Colossians

- **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Audience:** The church in \_\_\_\_\_
- **Situation:** Paul responds to Epaphras's reports about \_\_\_\_\_ teaching in the church at Colossae.

## The \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (1:15-23)

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of the invisible God
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of all creation
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of all things
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of all things
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of all things
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of the church
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of the world

## The \_\_\_\_\_ Lives of His People (3)

- Set your \_\_\_\_\_ on the things of God (3:1-2)
- Put to \_\_\_\_\_ the sin that tempts you (3:5-9)
- Cultivate godly \_\_\_\_\_ together (3:12-17)

## Context of Philemon

- **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Audience:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Situation:** Philemon's runaway \_\_\_\_\_, Onesimus, has been saved through Paul's ministry. Now Paul sends him with a letter to his master, with instructions about how to receive him.

## The \_\_\_\_\_ of a faithful brother (4-7)

- Philemon lives with \_\_\_\_\_ and faith
- Paul is encouraged by his \_\_\_\_\_

## A \_\_\_\_\_ to a faithful brother (8-25)

- Mature believers can often be \_\_\_\_\_ instead of told (8-9)
- Our faith re-identifies us into the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (10-16)
- The generous grace we have received results in \_\_\_\_\_ grace we can give (17-20)

# COLOSSIANS & PHILEMON

## NT Overview

Teaching Resources

[Bible Project video: Colossians Overview](#)

[Bible Project video: Philemon Overview](#)

[Capitol Hill Baptist Church Core Seminar: NT Overview](#)

[ESV Study Bible: Introduction to Colossians](#)

[ESV Study Bible: Introduction to Philemon](#)

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