



BANNOCKBURN

LIFEGROUP CURRICULUM

WEEK 10

Pillar #4 - Discipleship

Concluding our series by circling back again on discipleship, we look this week at Colossians 1. In this letter written from prison, the apostle Paul addresses false teachings that have emerged within the Colossian church – false teaching who are swaying many away. In this opening chapter, Paul reminds the Colossians who he is and what he has done for the believers in the region over and over again, before lofting high the glory of Jesus Christ. Ultimately, Paul deeply loves this church, and his passion remains what it always was, namely, to see them strong and mature in Christ – to truly behold him and be renewed!

THE SCRIPTURE

COLOSSIANS 1:28-29

²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

WE SHARE THE LIFE-TRANSFORMING GOOD NEWS OF JESUS WITH BOLDNESS, AND LEAD HIS PEOPLE INTO A DEEPENING AFFECTION AND DEVOTION TO HIM,

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS: WEEK 10

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Over and above merely turning 18 years old, what kind of responsibilities and activities truly begin to show that you've reached adulthood?
2. In light of your answer from the previous question, why do you think it is that so many fail to step into these roles and activities?

DIVING DEEPER

3. Our verses sit at the end of Chapter 1, and so a lot of ground has been covered previous to them. Looking back at the previous verses, why do you think Paul goes into such detail about the person and work of Jesus Christ, and then moves into the declaration found in our verses?
4. In the simplest terms, what is Paul's main goal that he emphasizes in these two verses?
5. Are evangelism and discipleship the same? If not, how are they different?
6. Who according to Paul is at the very center of his activities? Look carefully at the end of verse 29; where does the energy to do this come from?
7. Can you think of some helpful reasons why Paul wants the Colossian believers to reach maturity in Christ? What do you think greater maturity in Jesus would bring in your life?

8. In light of the series as a whole, what specific truth has most impacted you? Has your life changed as a result? How has truly beholding Jesus renewed you?

9. In the chart below, write the ONE WORD version of each of the pillars. Inasmuch as we have learned through this series that each are markers of health and goals to aim for as a church, there are also helpful indicators for our own personal walks with Jesus. Use the space at the right of each to jot down your thoughts or even desires for growth.

Pillar #1 _____

Pillar #2 _____

Pillar #3 _____

Pillar #4 _____

10. Carefully read this lengthy quote from New Testament scholar, R. Kent Hughes:

No one who commits to following Christ, and does so, lives a life of ease. No one. If your Christianity has not brought discomfort to your life, something is wrong. A committed heart knows the discomfort of loving difficult people, the discomfort of giving of until it hurts, the discomfort of putting oneself out for the ministry of Christ and his church, the discomfort of a life out of step with modern culture, the discomfort of being disliked, the occasional sense of having nowhere to lay your head. But Christ's rewards far outweigh anything lost by following him¹⁶

Close your time in study by praying for each other and asking that God would continue to grow our church in a deepening desire for more of him, as we recognize 'his rewards far outweigh anything lost by following him.'

¹⁶R. Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know the Truth, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1998), 372.