



WEEK 2

Our Purpose

Within the broader context of these two verses, Paul calls the Colossian believers to a holy life, consistent with their new identity in Jesus. They have been chosen by God and now stand before him as his beloved holy ones, and so they are to live up to what they are in Christ. Consistent with this, the Word of God plays an active role in our walk with Jesus, and ultimately our efforts to glorify God in all that we do.

THE SCRIPTURE

COLOSSIANS 3:16-17

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell² in you richly, teaching and admonishing³ one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs⁴, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

²**dwell** – the sense behind this word is literally, ‘be at home with.’

³**admonishing** – this word carries with it the idea of warning, and specifically with regards to behaviors.

⁴**songs, hymns and spiritual songs** – consider that in Paul’s time, and for much of the ancient world, writing was expensive and so oral instruction became highly valuable in the transferring of ideas.

BANNOCKBURN CHURCH EXISTS TO GLORIFY GOD, FULFILLING HIS GREAT COMMISSION BY LIVING OUT HIS GREAT COMMANDMENT.

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS: WEEK 2

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Beyond the Bible, is there a book that holds a special place in your heart? Why?
2. Could you share a favorite worship song? Why does this song carry particular significance for you?

DIVING DEEPER

3. How does this passage underscore our Mission Statement as a church?
4. In verse 16, identify the three participles (words ending in -ing). Which central command do these participles describe? Jot your answers down in the chart below:

CENTRAL COMMAND *We must* _____

Participle #1 *by...* _____ *ing*

Participle #2 *by...* _____ *ing*

Participle #3 *by...* _____ *ing*

5. On an average week, what kind of teaching do you encounter outside the church? What makes the teaching inside the church so different and important?
6. Verse 16 encourages us to let the word of Christ dwell in us richly. How does personal Bible study and even memorization contribute to our ongoing walk with Christ? What steps can you take to prioritize your devotional life?

7. According to this passage, why is singing significant in the church? What reasons outside this passage can you point to elsewhere in Scripture? What factors contribute to the diversity of opinions on worship content and style?

8. How could insisting on specific worship styles, such as 'only hymns' or 'only contemporary music,' or 'no guitars,' actually serve to hinder the goal of this passage?

9. Based on verse 16, what should be the primary consideration when deciding whether to include a particular song in church worship? What additional consideration does verse 17 add? How do the two considerations complement each other?

10. Based on what you've learned, how would you respond to a friend who expresses their desire to sing a specific song in church again only because it makes them happy?

11. Why is a thankful spirit such an important part of living as a follower of Jesus?