

Growth Group Guide

Connect

Start off your discussion with these questions:

- Describe your work environment. How do your coworkers act and work? How would you describe your interactions with them? What is the general culture of your jobsite, shop, office, etc.? How do you contribute to or affect its culture?

Read

Read Colossians 3:22-4:6 aloud at least twice in a couple different translations. Jot down some key observations.

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Engage

Discuss these questions based on the text:

- According to Paul, what principles should guide a believer in performing his/her work? What principles should guide a believer who has a position of authority over workers?
- What does it look like for a person to be devoted to prayer or steadfast in prayer? What are some hallmarks of such devotion?
- What is Paul asking from the Colossians in 4:3-4? Why would Paul ask for this?
- Who are the “outsiders” Paul refers to in 4:5? What exactly is “wise conduct” toward outsiders?

Respond

Think through these questions together:

- What instructions did Paul give earlier in chapter 3 (verses 1-17) that might influence how you work in the workplace and how you interact in the world?
- Think about you and your workplace. How are you implementing Paul’s instructions in your work? What instructions do you need to be more attentive to?
- Explain why there is no such thing as “secular” work or “secular” involvement in the community? Why can’t we compartmentalize our Christian life from our work life or our public life?

Growth Groups at CBC are a key pathway toward making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Growth Groups include...

Word: Studying, understanding, and applying the Bible.

Walk: Praying, caring, serving, and connecting with others.

Witness: Intentionally reaching out to the world around us.

Worship: Fostering growth in knowledge, faith, love, service, obedience, and maturity.

This guide incorporates these elements in conjunction with the current preaching series. Intended for use by Growth Groups that meet every two weeks, but can be easily modified for other uses.

- Think about the idea of continuing steadfastly in prayer. What is the importance of this? What steps could one take toward becoming steadfast in prayer?
- How can we connect 3:22-4:1, 4:2-4, and 4:5-6? Is there a single, central theme or application that can be drawn from these sections?

Dig

Over the next several days, consider these things:

- Read through 4:7-18. Take note of the people Paul addresses or refers to in his greetings. What do we learn about Paul and the people he worked with from these greetings? What stands out?
- Once you get to 4:18, you've looked at the entire letter to the Colossians. What are some major, significant take-aways from the letter as a whole? What was Paul trying to get across to the Colossians? In what ways have you been affected by this study?

Go

- As you go to work this week, pay attention to your work and your interactions at your workplace. How are you working? How are your actions and words reflective of the idea that you are serving the Lord? Prayerfully consider these things. Make adjustments as necessary.
- As you engage with the general public this week, consider how you are speaking and interacting with people. Pray about this. Make adjustments as necessary.

Pray

- Take some time to pray together for each other's needs and concerns. In particular, pray through interactions in the workplace and in the community.
- Specifically pray Colossians 4:3-4 in regard to the work at CBC and in the local community.

Care

- Is there a specific need among the group that you can help care for? How can you help?
- Make a point to connect with and encourage one or more of your group members between now and the next meeting.

Plan

Next group meeting will be

at _____

on _____.

