

Study Buddies:

Quick Bible Reference Guides

COLOSSIANS: Honor the Lord with Your Life

Note: this sheet was prepared based upon the Contemporary English Version of the Bible, however it is always good to use more than one version as a reference. This practice will enable you to compare the language of the translations and gain a fuller understanding of the text.

Overview

The letter from the apostle Paul to the Colossians encourages Christians to keep following Christ and not be tricked by false teachings or fooled into following any of the many religious ideas and practices that were being taught in Asia Minor at the time (2:8, 16-23). He urges Christians to “live a life that honors the Lord” (1:10).

It also includes a beautiful hymn that explains who Christ is (1:15-20) and concludes with advice on how to live a new life in Christ.



Key Points and Verses

Please read the whole book to gain the fullest experience. These points are just a few of the highlights that have been encapsulated from the text.

- vs. 1:9-11 Living a life that honors God
- vs. 1:24,25 Serving the Church, the “body of Christ”
- vs. 3:1-4 Focusing on heavenly things
- vs. 3:10, 11 Being a new person in Christ
- vs. 4:2 The importance of prayer

Study Questions

1. What does Paul pray for concerning the Colossians? (1.9-12). What does it mean to “live a life that honors the Lord?”
2. List the key points of the hymn in 1.15-20. Choose one point and describe what it means to you.
3. What is the message that Paul says had been kept secret for ages and ages, and why is it important to the Colossians? (1.24-28).
4. How is Paul's message different than the message that others are trying to teach the Colossians? (2.8-23). What messages in the world today pull people away from the new life that God offers in Christ Jesus?
5. Paul says those who trust in Christ are “new persons” (3.10) and God's “own special people” (3.12). What are some of the things God's people should not do? (3.5-9). What are the qualities God's people should begin to practice? (3.12-17).
6. Read again what Paul had to say about spreading the message and explaining the mystery about Christ (4.2-6). What advice does he give about how to treat unbelievers? Which of Paul's points will help you most the next time you try to share your faith with someone?

Something to Think About

(additional food for thought)

Paul talks about dying with Christ (2.20) and being raised to life with Christ (3.1). What does this mean? How has this affected you and your life?