

Summer Sermon Series 2023: Colossians – Living the Christ Centred Life

Sunday	Topic	Bible Reading
	Living the Christ Centred Life	
April 30th	Thank God for the Gospel	Colossians 1:1-14
May 7th	This is the Gospel	Colossians 1:15-23
May 14th	Labouring for the Gospel	Colossians 1:24-2:5
May 21st	Alive in Christ	Colossians 2:6-15
May 28th	<i>PENTECOST CELEBRATION</i>	<i>Joel 2:18-32</i>
June 4th	Set your hearts on things above	Colossians 2:16 -3:4
June 11th	AS: Healing Service	StA: Rich Johnson
June 18th	Off with the old, on with the new	Colossians 3:5-17
June 25th	Christ Centred Relationships	Colossians 3:18-4:1
July 2nd	On mission together	Colossians 4:2-18

After Easter we will be working through the book of Colossians during the morning services (We'll be doing the 'Prophetic Lifestyle Course at the Six so it will not be duplicated in the evening).

A helpful overview of Colossians from the Bible Project can be found here: <https://youtu.be/pTXIDxQsvc>
You might like to show that at your first Life Group.



I'm really keen to encourage groups to continue the momentum of Lectio Divina style Bible reading over these next few weeks so we are not going to produce questions for each session, but instead encourage groups to be more reflective using either of the two approaches below. These are simple to lead (anyone can lead them) and help people to develop methods for reading the Bible on their own.

Simple Lectio Divina:

1. **Read (Lectio)** Read the passage out loud, reflecting on the passage as you read.
2. **Meditate (Meditatio)** Read the passage again, and encourage each member of the group to say out loud one word or phrase that jumped out to them (the same word or phrase can be repeated by different people).
3. **Pray (Oratio)** Read the passage again, and allow space for members of the group to pray out short prayers related to the themes, words or phrases of the passage.
4. **Contemplate (Contemplatio)** Read the passage a final time, and sit quietly to reflect individually. Each member of the group might like to ask themselves the question, “what’s the one thing from this passage I will take into my week?”

Simple 5 question method:

Ask the following simple questions each time:

- What do these verses tell us about God/Jesus?
- What do they tell us about what it means to be a follower of Jesus?
- What is God particularly saying to me through these verses?
- What am I led to pray in response to this?
- How am I going to respond to what I’ve read today?

You might also each week like to do some of the following too:

- 1) Have one person share a testimony of something God has done in their life
- 2) Have someone share their favourite Bible verse and why
- 3) Have someone have an extended time sharing about their frontline and then the whole group listens to God and prays for them
- 4) Have a time of listening to God (Practising the prophetic prayer we did in week 4 of Letio) for one specific person (or in 3’s) to continue to practise listening to God’s voice.