

VI. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN MATURITY

“12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

13 For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis.”

Colossians 4:12-13

“And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

Luke 22:44

“till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Ephesians 4:13

VII. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN HOSPITALITY

“14 Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

15 Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas and the church that is in his house.” Colossians 4:14-15

“8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

9 Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. “

I Peter 4:8-9

VIII. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN MINISTRY

“16 Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, “Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it.”

18 This salutation by my own hand—Paul. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. Amen. Colossians 4:16-18

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:10

LET THE CHURCH “MOVE FORWARD”

GET IN THE GAME Let The Church “Move Forward” Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Football season is here! Football is 22 people on the field who desperately need a break being watched by thousands of people in the stands who desperately need exercise.

Sadly this sounds a lot like the Church.

20% of the people doing 80% of the work.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO GET IN THE GAME.

Not everyone is gifted to play football, but everyone is gifted to serve God.

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” I Peter 4:10

B. God doesn't want you sitting on the bench or hanging out on the sidelines. He wants you in the game using your gifts to minister to others. Our Get In The Game Teaching Series will show you four “moves” to make for winning at serving.

Aug 20 Join Our T.E.A.M.!

Aug 27 Let God's Spirit “Move In”

Sep 3 Let The Pastors “Move Over”

Sep 10 Let The People “Move Up”

TODAY Let The Church “Move Forward”

Sep 24 Game Time! Let's Go!

C. TEXT: Colossians 4:7-18

“Let us go forward together.”

--Winston Churchill

HOW TO LET THE CHURCH “MOVE FORWARD”

I. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN TEAMWORK

The apostle Paul mentions over 100 people by name in his New Testament writings. In this passage he mentions 10 individuals. He was a friend-maker and a team player!

“A man who has friends must himself be friendly, ...”
Proverbs 18:24a

II. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN FAMILY

*“7 Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, ...
9 with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, ...”*
Colossians 4:7a,9a

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,”
Ephesians 2:19

*“I Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father,
younger men as brothers,
2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with
all purity.”*
I Timothy 5:1-2

III. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN FAITHFULNESS

*“7 Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me.
8 I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts,
9 with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.”*
Colossians 4:7-9

“Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?”
Proverbs 20:6

“A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.”
Proverbs 17:17

IV. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN FORGIVENESS

“Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him),”
Colossians 4:10

“5 And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant.

13 Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John, departing from them, returned to Jerusalem.”
Acts 13:5,13

“...Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.”
II Timothy 4:11b

“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”
Ephesians 4:32

“Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”
Galatians 6:1

V. LET US MOVE FORWARD IN DIVERSITY

“and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me.”
Colossians 4:11

“12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.”
I Corinthians 12:12-14