

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK



 Ed & Annita Hoagland | Mexico

- PRAISE**
- for new volunteers that are joining the Missions team and for more Mexicans that are actively sharing the good news of Christ.
 - for a successful VBS in Joquicingo. 67 children attended and 33 made salvation decisions.
 - for a successful one day Gospel presentation in Leon. 37 people attended and 16 made salvations decisions.
- PRAY**
- for more workers for God to share the Gospel in Mexico.
 - for an upcoming large evangelistic meeting where 5,000 people are expected to attend.



Handout: 09/10/23

Study Date: 09/17/23

Let the Church “Move Forward”

There are two recorded times Paul is alone in ministry (Acts 17 when Timothy and Titus minister in places Paul isn’t welcome, and 2 Timothy 4 when he asks Timothy to come to him), and he’s bothered by it, which often surprises those who see Paul as lone-wolf type. As amazing as Paul was, he didn’t want to be alone. He knew God worked through him in a team effort.

Paul is going to close this letter to the church as Colossae talking about the men who are ministering with him and those who are ministering in Colossae. His desire for team ministry is evident as he shows his gratitude and high opinion of these faithful servants.

Tychicus is mentioned 5 times in the New Testament: Here in Colossians 4, Ephesians 6:21 in a similar way, Acts 20:4 as part of Paul’s team, 2 Timothy 4 when Paul sent him to Ephesus, and Titus 3 where Paul has sent him to take over Titus’s ministry so Titus can come to him.

Tychicus delivers letters and replaces Titus and Timothy in their ministries when Paul needs them to come help him. As a messenger, he’s more than a delivery boy – he read the letter and explained it, answered their questions and encouraged their hearts (see Colossians 2:2 – not nice words but Truth that leads to a full assurance and knitting together of the church in solid theology). Paul considered Tychicus a “beloved brother, faithful servant, and fellow slave,” and he saw and utilized his unique gifting powerfully.

Onesimus was a runaway slave who is saved while in Rome. Paul sends him back, hoping he can rejoin him someday, but desiring to do things right. Though Onesimus is new in faith, he is a faithful and beloved brother.

Aristarchus is Paul’s traveling partner during his 2nd missionary journey. He’s seized and thrown in prison, and goes with Paul from Jerusalem to Rome where Paul will stand trial. He continues to serve with Paul in Rome and is a faithful member of the team.

Mark was on Paul’s 1st missionary journey with him and Barnabas. Mark was young and abandoned them along the way. On the 2nd journey, Barnabas wants to bring Mark along again, but Paul won’t. It’s clear that Paul takes someone leaving his team seriously and was hurt by it. Barnabas and Paul go separate ways, Barnabas taking Mark and Paul assembling a new team. But Mark becomes an important friend to Paul (see the end of 2 Timothy) and here Paul is correcting anyone’s possible poor perception of Mark.

Justus is the Latin form of the Greek name Jesus, which in Hebrew is Joshua, meaning YAHWEH is salvation. It says much about his character that he would take on a Latin name for the sake of the ministry in Rome. Paul says simply that Justus and the others have “proven to be a comfort to” him.

Source: “Christianity is a Team Sport” by Bethel Baptist Church of Torrington, WY

KEY VERSE

Colossians 4:17 (NKJV)

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

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Colossians 4:7-18; Proverbs 18:24

Let Us Move Forward in Teamwork

1. The apostle Paul didn't do ministry alone. Who are his teammates listed in today's readings?
2. Who are you co-laboring for the Gospel with?

Tuesday: Colossians 4:7-9; Ephesians 2:19; I Timothy 5:1-2

Let Us Move Forward in Family

3. Who are Tychicus and Onesimus? What "family" word does Paul call both of them?
4. What does it mean for Capital to be a family? Who do you have family relationships with in our church?

Wednesday: Colossians 4:7-9; Proverbs 17:17, 20:6

Let Us Move Forward in Faithfulness

5. Paul describes both Tychicus and Onesimus as faithful. Who is exemplifies faithfulness to you?
6. How has your life been transformed by Jesus and the Gospel? How are you different now from a year ago?

Thursday: Colossians 4:10; Acts 13:5, 13; II Timothy 4:11

Let Us Move Forward in Forgiveness

7. Who is Mark? Why did there need to be forgiveness between he and Paul?
8. Why is forgiveness necessary for you personally to move forward in life?
9. Why is forgiveness necessary for our church to move forward in ministry?

Friday: Colossians 4:11; I Corinthians 12:12-14; I Peter 4:8-9

Let Us Move Forward in Diversity

10. List ways in which you see diversity in our church.
11. What are some ways our church can grow in diversity? What is your part in this?
12. Where is God calling you to get in the game? Is there a ministry that he is asking you to step up and fulfill?