

Every Inch of our Legacy

Colossians 4:7-18

Synopsis: Exodus - like the Church at Colossae - is not the result of the labors of one man but the fruit of sacrificial service, generous giving and faithful participation from all the saints depending on Jesus.

Remember

What stood out to you from our gathering?

What has been most helpful to you during our study of Colossians?

Brian mentioned the difference between a cruise ship and a small yacht mentality in reference to the church.

- When does this present itself in your mind?
- When are you most likely to expect to be served rather than serve?
- What are ways the cruise ship mentality lulls you toward laziness?
- What is scary about the reality of everyone having a role and responsibility?

Deepen

Romans 12 says that we should outdo one another in showing honor. Thinking about your community group, who are the people who fit these descriptions? Take some time to encourage one another and express thanks to God by honoring one another.

- Hard Workers
- Encouraging Friends
- Effective Leaders
- Faithful Members

Paul mentions men who were a comfort to him. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7.

- What are some crucial elements of comfort that come from this passage?
- How can we comfort others with the comfort we have received? Why is this important?
- What is the connection between sharing in Christ's sufferings and comforting others?

Paul mentions that Epaphras was a man of prayer.

- How does he describe Epaphras' prayer life?
- Compare 4:12 with the following passages
 - Colossians 1:9-11
 - Colossians 1:27-29
- Are you a prayerful participant in Exodus Church?
- How do you need to address the issue of struggling in prayer?

Transform

Paul ends his list of needed people with Faithful Members. How can you be a faithful member at Exodus? What are some ways in which faithfulness is seen in our members?

Demas is mentioned in Colossians as a faithful servant and then in 2 Timothy as one who has deserted Paul. Why should that serve as a warning to us?

Paul calls on the church at Colossae to encourage their leaders toward faithful ministry in v. 17.

- Who are leaders in our church that need to be encouraged?
- What are ways this can be done that is life-giving?

Sometimes we are tempted to believe that we are beyond all hope of restoration and renewed ministry. How can we encourage and restore one another in a way that returns people to faithful gospel ministry?