



The Gospel at Home and at Work

Discussion Guide

May 27, 2018

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Questions for Study

** Before you begin, please read Colossians 3:5-17 as a group.

1. Colossians 3:18-4:1 focuses on applying the truths of the gospel to our lives at home and at work. Why is it important for the gospel to influence our lives in these areas (home and work)?
2. What can make it difficult to live as a follower of Jesus either at home or at work? Create a list of at least 3-4 "hurdles" that can make it difficult in each of these areas.
3. Briefly review the message of Colossians up to this point – what has the Apostle Paul told us about who Jesus is, and what that means for us? (If you want some hints, focus on Colossians 1:15-23; Colossians 3:1-4 and Colossians 3:12-17.)
4. Based on your answer to the previous question, why is it important to keep this foundation firmly in mind as you read Colossians 3:18-4:1?
5. Colossians 3:18-21 focuses in on family relationships:
 - Describe a positive family situation where you've seen a family pursuing the picture of family life Paul lays out here. How did the different members of the family work to apply what the Bible is saying here? (How did this look in very practical terms?)
 - Are there ways any part of this passage can be misunderstood? What might those misunderstandings be, and how can you avoid them?
 - Now read Ephesians 5:21-6:4. How does this passage provide any more insight into family relationships at home?
6. Colossians 3:22-4:1 applies to employer / employee relationships – your life at work.
 - In your own words, what does this passage say to employees? To employers / managers?
 - How can you apply truth from Colossians 3:22-4:1 to a work situation you're in? Get specific – what will this look like this coming week?
7. What's one big personal take-away you've learned from Colossians 3:8-4:1? How can you apply this take-away to your life?
8. **Challenge:** Memorize Colossians 3:23: Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters...