

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Colossians 3:1-4

Ice Breaker: What's an evidence of God's grace you've seen this week?

Ice Breaker: Who in your life (past or present) impacted you with their "heavenly mindedness"? How did it influence your life?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Colossians 3:1-4** What is the context of this passage in the book of Colossians? What do you think Paul's overall point is in this passage?
2. Verse 1 tells us to "seek the things that are above." What is the prior condition that makes this possible? What does that mean for you? What are its implications?
3. Why do you think it is important that Christ is "above" and "seated at the right hand of God?" How does Psalm 110 give us a fuller picture of what Paul is saying?
4. Is there a difference between "seek" and "set your mind"? If not, why would Paul say a similar thing twice? What would he be explaining or qualifying?
5. What two things are in parallel in verses 1 and 2, relating to where we should set our minds? Why are these two pieces helpful when put together? Why would this idea and instruction be so important for Paul (i.e. what benefits can be gained by it)?
6. How can we practice setting our minds on the things that are above? What does this even look like? What does it mean to fill your mind with thoughts of the heavenly (non-earthly) realm?
7. Is it possible to be overly heavenly minded? If so, how would you know if you were? Do you think that is a danger for you, or are you often too earthly-minded? In other words, which way do you think you need a "minded-ness" correction?
8. What does the "For" at the beginning of verse 3 have to do with verses 1-2? What is this a necessary piece for Paul to include? What would happen if it was left out?
9. How can "heavenly minded-ness" bring you hope today? What trials or hardships would be soothed, partially or fully, if you had a heavenly mindset today?
10. How would your life change if you were as heavenly minded as Paul wants us to be?

Application: Meditate on verse 4. What hope and comfort do you find in this verse? How can it encourage you this week? How might it help you with a "minded-ness" correction?