



Colossians

RESISTANCE

KEY SCRIPTURE | Colossians 4:2–6

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Paul is writing his letters to the Colossians from prison. He's asking them for prayer, but not for the things you might expect. Rather than ask for God to rescue him, make him more comfortable, or defeat his captors, he asks the Colossians to pray for Him as he shares the Gospel. And then he turns it back to them, encouraging them to make the most of their own opportunities to share Jesus with others through their words and actions.

But if we're honest, how many of us look for excuses NOT to do that? We let fear of rejection, dissatisfaction and unmet expectations, and the idea of relativism prevent us from sharing Jesus with the people around us. We may not all have the gift of evangelism, but we can all do things to testify to God's goodness and presence in our lives and encourage others to pursue a relationship with Him. Following Jesus means leading others to Jesus.

QUESTIONS

1. What's the best job you ever had? What about the worst? Pick one and share with your group.
2. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. Talk with your group about anything you found memorable or confusing.
3. Pastor Neal talked about three reasons we resist sharing Jesus with others—fear, dissatisfaction, and relativism. Which one is your go-to? Share something you learned that might help you change it.
4. Has following Jesus been what you expected when you first made the decision to do it? How has it met or challenged your expectations? How will that change how you share Jesus with others?
5. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? How can you use them to lead people to Jesus?
6. Review this list of ways you can "let your light shine." Which ones are easiest for you? Which are most difficult?

- Love the unlovely
- Forgive freely
- Exude joy
- Demonstrate grace
- Go last
- Keep your cool
- Watch your words (and your tone)
- Prioritize people
- Trust
- Speak up

7. What's your biggest takeaway from Sunday's message and today's discussion?

CHALLENGE

1. Identify your resistance.
2. This week, look for every opportunity (Colossians 4:5b).