

COLOSSIANS

JESUS AT THE CENTER

Colossians 4:7-18

Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here. My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea. Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord." I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

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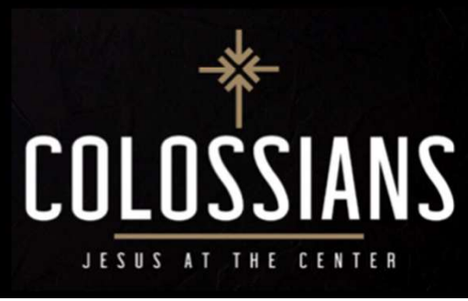
Don’t stop at one good friend, make many great ones



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Don’t stop at one good friend, make many great ones

1) God gives friends for different seasons & different reasons

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Puteoli
Rhegium
SICILY
Syracuse
MALTA
MACEDONIA
Philippi
Neapolis
Amphipolis
Beroea
Thessalonica
GREECE
ACHAIA
Athens
Corinth
SAMOTHRACE
Troas
MYSIA
Assos
Pergamum
Thyatira
Mitylene
ASIA
CHIOS
Smyrna
Sardis
SAMOS
Ephesus
Philadelphia
Laodicea
Colossae
PATMOS
Miletus
Cos
Cnidus
RHODES
Patara
CRETE
CAUDA
BITHYNIA
PONTUS
PHRYGIA
GALATIA
CAPPADOCIA
Antioch (of Pisidia)
Iconium
Lystra
LYCAONIA
Derbe
PISIDIA
Attalia
Perga
LYCIA
PAMPHYLIA
CILICIA
Tarsus
Myra
Seleucia
Antioch (of Syria)
SYRIA
Salamis
Paphos
CYPRUS
Sidon
Tyre
Damascus
Ptolemais
Caesarea
Joppa
Lydda
Pella
Jerusalem
Gazza
Alexandria
EGYPT
Mediterranean Sea
PAUL'S TRAVELS
First Missionary Trip (Ac 13:1–14:28)
Second Missionary Trip (Ac 15:36–18:22)
Third Missionary Trip (Ac 18:22–21:19)
Trip to Rome (Ac 23:11–28:31)
Main Roads
N
0 mi
150
0 km
150
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
731 × 448

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Don’t stop at one good friend, make many great ones

2) God gives friends to change you

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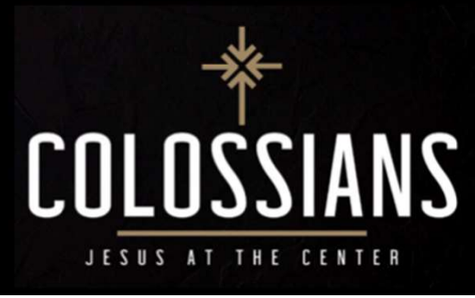
Philemon

I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord. So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me.

Acts 15

Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.” Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord.



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Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

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3) Christians who make friends make a church that makes friends

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