

Study: A Useful Vessel

Text: Colossians 3:22-4:1

PUTTING ON CHRIST IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS—“WORK LIFE”

Memory verse: 2 Timothy 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet [*useful*] for the **Master's** use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

† **The PRACTICE of a USEFUL Vessel—“Putting On” Christ in his _____ (Colossians 3:18-4:1)**

I. Usefulness In Our HOME Life (Colossians 3:18-21)

The challenge for us is—to LOOK *DISTINCTLY* LIKE CHRIST at HOME!

II. Usefulness In Our _____ Life (Colossians 3:22-4:1)

The challenge for us is—to LOOK *DISTINCTLY* LIKE CHRIST at WORK!

A. The Biblical Role of _____ (v. 22-25)

Servants / employees you are to obey your masters / employers “*in word and deed, all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him*” (Col 3:17).

1. The _____ of service (v. 22a)

a. _____ is to obey?—“servants”

The Greek word for “servants” is *doulos* or one who is responsive to the _____ of another.

b. _____ we are to obey?—“in all things”

To “obey” carries the action of _____ and the attitude of humble _____.

2. The _____ of service

a. Who is _____? (v. 22b)

Proverbs 5:21 For the ways of man *are* [*directly*] before [*in front of*] the eyes of the **LORD**, and **He** pondereth [*carefully*] all his goings.

b. Who are you pleasing? (v. 22b)

Cf. Ephesians 6:5-6

Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or **God**? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should NOT be the servant of **Christ**.

Ex. Joseph as he worked for Potiphar (Genesis 39:1-6).

c. What is your _____?

i. It reveals your _____ (v. 22b)

ii. It reveals your _____ (v. 23a)

3. The _____ of service

a. Consider your _____

i. _____ God (v. 22c)

This word for “*fear*” is to be in awe of God that leads to _____ of Him.

Cf. Ephesians 6:5; 1 Peter 2:18-19

ii. _____ Christ (v. 23b-24)

Serve your master as you serve the Lord.

Cf. Ephesians 6:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31

b. Consider the _____ (v. 25)

Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the **LORD** *are* in every place, beholding [*watching*] the evil and the good.

Genesis 18:25 ...Shall not the **Judge** of all the earth do right?

B. The Biblical Role of _____ (Colossians 4:1)

Masters rule over your servants “*in word and deed, all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him*” (Col 3:17).

1. A man _____ authority

Ephesians 6:9a “And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing [*giving up*] threatening:...”

2. A man _____ authority

Ephesians 6:9b “...knowing that your **Master** also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons [*partiality / favoritism*] with **Him**.”

Q: *Employees / employers*, what has the Lord spoken to you about that reveals an area of needed change?—an area in which Christ is not reflected in your work life; an area in which you are failing to serve Christ?

What is my next step? “*Put off,*” “*renew your mind,*” and “*put on.*”

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25
Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF**)

2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?

3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?

 - d. What example to follow?

4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew**)

5. In light of what I have heard from God,... (**Put ON**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)

OUR MISSION: *Passionately Serve God & Compassionately Serve Others—
ALL to the Glory of GOD*

Sermon Notes

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25
Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

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