

## Lesson 19

### Colossians 4:7-18

Day 1

#### KEEP IT IN PERSPECTIVE

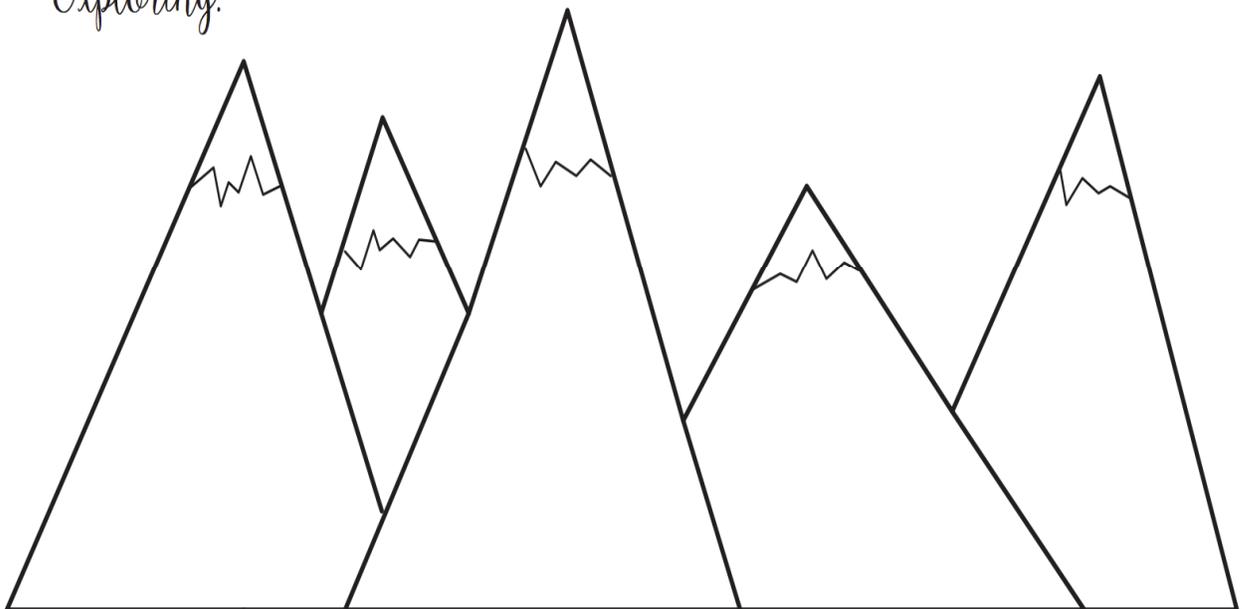
1. In the box below, explain verses 7-18 in only one or two sentences. Think about how you would explain it to a 10 year old child. I usually ask myself, "Who is doing what, and why is he doing it?" This is usually enough to get the main point of the thought into one or two sentences.

Verses 2-6	Verses 7-18
<p>Paul encourages the Colossians to devote themselves to prayer, specifically regarding opportunities to share the gospel. He also encourages them to be careful, in word and deed, so that they will be able to share the gospel with those who need it.</p>	

#### EXPLORING THE THEME

2. Look for the words: ENCOURAGE/ENCOURAGEMENT. Write down the verses where you these words and what you learn about them.

*Exploring:*



## Day 2

**7** As to all my affairs, Tychicus, our beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you information. **8** For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts; **9** and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of your number. They will inform you about the whole situation here.

**10** Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, sends you his greetings; and also Barnabas's cousin Mark (about whom you received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him); **11** and also Jesus who is called Justus; these are the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are from the circumcision, and they have proved to be an encouragement to me. **12** Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God. **13** For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis. **14** Luke, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and also Demas. **15** Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that is in her house. **16** When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter that is coming from Laodicea. **17** Say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."

3. Get to know the people of Colossians by following the instructions below:

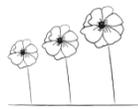
- Underline each person mentioned in the text above.
- List the people who are with Paul in Rome.
- Put a box around the people who are Jewish ("from the circumcision").
- Place a star next to the people who are from Colossae.
- Name the man who is currently in prison.
- Who is the only woman mentioned?
- Which man is called to the ministry?



## Day 4

5. Continue finding out about the lives of the following people from Colossians 4. What do you learn about these people from the following verses, and how is each person an example and/or encouragement to you?

- Epaphras (Philippians 2:25; Colossians 1:7, 4:12; Philemon 23)
- Luke (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-2, 16:10-13; Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:11)
- Demas (Colossians 3:14, 2 Timothy 4:10, Philemon 24)
- Archippus (Colossians 4:17, Philemon 2)
- Nympha (Colossians 4:15)



### GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

6. Pick one of the people in verses 7-17 and write his or her “story” in such a way that you could tell it to your child/grandchild. Make sure to include the encouraging part of the story, or a lesson learned.

## Day 5

7. In Colossians 4:7-18, there were many people participating in the work of the gospel in order for the goal of salvation to be attained. What was the goal according to Colossians 1:28 and Ephesians 4:15-16?
  
8. Each individual person is part of the Body of Christ and causes growth in the Body of Christ. Think about the people in Colossians 4:7-18 and identify how each person was using his or her gifts and abilities for the kingdom of God.
  
9. Paul had a scribe writing this letter until he gets to the end (verse 18). Based on what you have read in this letter, why do you think Paul does this? (Galatians 6:11, 1 Corinthians 16:21, 2 Thessalonians 3:17)