

Discussion Guide Col 4:7-9

Opening Prayer

Thank the Lord for His grace that makes us new creatures in Christ Jesus and equips us to serve Him. Pray that God would make us humble, faithful Christians who delight to encourage God's people in their walk with Him.

Recap

In Colossians 4:7-9, Paul reports his sending of Tychicus and Onesimus to the Colossian church. He commends both men to them by highlighting their Christian character and their usefulness to the Lord. Paul explains that his reason for sending them is that they might encourage their hearts and explain what is going on with Paul's imprisonment. He also sends the letter of Colossians and its companion letter Philemon to be delivered by the two men.

1. What does Paul's threefold description of Tychicus tell us about his character? Why did Paul want the Colossians to know his character?
2. Why did Paul send Tychicus to Colossae?
3. Why did Onesimus return to his hometown of Colossae?
4. Why is it significant that Paul referred to Onesimus as a faithful and beloved brother?
5. Why would the Colossians desire a report about how things are going with Paul's imprisonment?

Practical Application

1. Are you content to serve the Lord from behind the scenes? Do you believe that God can use you there?
2. For those in ministries that are more visible, how do you seek humility and promote the gifts of others?
3. What are some ways that you can be a greater encouragement to believers in your church?
4. How can you be more faithful in your walk with the Lord?
5. What is the role of discipleship in your life? Are you discipling anyone? Is anyone discipling you?

God Has More to Say

Tychicus

Acts 20:4

2 Tim. 4:12

Eph. 6:21-22

Onesimus

Philemon 10-18

Christian Encouragement

1 Thess 5:11

Heb. 10:23-25

Rom. 12:3-8

Phil.2:1-2

Christian Fellowship

Gal. 3:26-29

1 Thess. 3:1-5

2 Thess. 1:3-4

1 Pet. 4:7-10