

Rooted and built up

Colossians

Study 5 Colossians 3:1-4:1

Talkabout

1. What are the kind of things that people in general “seek” or “set their hearts on”? How is this different from Christians you have observed? What are the things you have been seeking in the past few years?

Read vv 1-4

2. How does this passage give us a summary of all that is true of you as a Christian, past, present and future? How do these truths provide the motivation for ordering our lives around “things above”?

Read vv 5-14

3. What are the phrases in this section that Paul uses to describe the changes that should flow from what Christ has done in our lives? And what are the motives he gives us for working at change in our lives?
4. How are these changes to have an impact in the life of the church family (see esp vv 11-14)? How do we apply these verses to our relationships within Christ Church?

Read vv 15-17

5. What are the three essential ingredients for healthy church life described in this section? What does each of these mean in practice?

Read vv 18-4:1

6. How does the attitude to relationships described here differ from modern views about personal rights and freedom?
7. In what ways do our relationships with others (e.g. husbands/wives; parents/children; masters/slaves) involve a laying aside of rights and freedom?
8. How in practice do the principles expressed in vv 22-4:1 make a difference to the way we behave in the workplace?

For prayer

- Give thanks for the blessing of belonging to Christ and his “chosen people, holy and dearly loved”. Use a phrase or two from Colossians as a springboard for thanksgiving
- Pray for the practical outworking of this passage in our church, our homes and our places of work.