

CALVARY CHAPEL SOUTH BAY  
**MEN OF THE WORD**  
MEN'S MINISTRY  
2018 – 19

**“Putting Christ First”**

**Session 15**

**March 12, 2019**

**“Fellow workers of comfort”**

Paul shows us by this passage how there is no task that is insignificant in the kingdom of God. Every member of the Body of Christ is critical to the whole (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Each of us can encourage one another if we are simply obedient to God and the leading of His Spirit, day by day. In this passage, Paul speaks of five such men who, each in their own way brought great “comfort” and encouragement to Paul and to the Colossian church. Each man added something to the body of Christ that served for the edifying of the body in love (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Do you struggle with the thought that you don't bring much to the table in the church of Jesus Christ because you see some who seem to do so much? Let this passage be an encouragement to you that God has a calling for each and every one of us, and that sometimes the simplest seeming contribution can do a powerful work of comfort in someone else's life.

**Passage:** Colossians 4:7-11

**Personal Study Time Questions:**

**Scripture: Colossians 4:7-8**

What was Paul's “purpose” in sending Tychicus to the believers in Colossae? What description did Paul give this messenger who performed these very simple yet profound acts? Don't these things seem like something you could do?

**Scripture: Colossians 4:9**

Paul describes Onesimus as “one of you;” just one of the body at that church. What did this “faithful and beloved brother” join in doing with Tychicus? What help in your own walk do you think there is in knowing what other believers are going through elsewhere in the world?

**Scripture: Colossians 4:10**

Read what Paul says in Philippians 1:12-14 about his “chains.” So when we hear Paul call Aristarcus his “fellow prisoner,” we can’t know for sure, but what can we guess at about him in reference to the calling to preach the gospel?

**Scripture: Colossians 4:10; Acts 15:36-41; 2 Timothy 4:11**

Read the listed passages about Mark. If you’ve ever messed up in your walk, or tried to serve and failed in some way, how does Mark’s story encourage you?

**Scripture: Colossians 4:11**

How is Justus described in this verse? Who did he comfort? What does this verse tell you about how you too can be a comfort to your Pastor?

**Personal meditation time with Jesus:**

Sometimes we look at “apostles, pastors, evangelists, and teachers” (Ephesians 5:11) and get lofty ideas about what it takes to be a servant of Jesus Christ. There may be some of you who are called to those giftings, but they are hardly the only calling of God. In fact, their purpose is for “the equipping of the saints” so that THEY can do ministry. Read through 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (taking special note of verse 22) and Ephesians 4:11-16. Can you see that every member of the body is absolutely critical to the overall health and effectiveness of the “body” of Christ? Now reread through our Colossians passage and ask yourself; “Can’t I do that?” YES YOU CAN!

Spend some time in prayer, and ask the Holy Spirit to put opportunities in your path to give comfort and encouragement to others, and be alert in the days ahead for just that to happen. God indeed wants to use you for the building up of His body in love!



**Hide God's Word in your heart (Ps. 119:11):**

“Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11