

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

“Putting Christ First”

Session 17

March 26, 2019

“A total commitment to Jesus Christ”

Paul closes his epistle with an exhortation that shows us that those who have truly put Christ first are committed to knowing and sharing God's Word, ready to step in and serve wherever they see a need, and willing to sacrifice for the sake of God's kingdom and the message of the Gospel. Is this you? Are you committed to an intimate fellowship with Jesus in the Word of God where the Holy Spirit changes you into His image day by day? Are you diligent in looking for ways you can serve God's kingdom? Are you ready and willing to deny self in order to follow Jesus wherever He would take you in life? Ask the Holy Spirit to send a consuming fire of passion for Jesus in your heart so that you would truly **put Christ first!**

Passage: Colossians 4:16-18

Personal Study Time Questions:

Scripture: Colossians 4:16; Psalm 119:11

What does Paul tell the church at Colossae and at Laodicea to do with his epistles? What does that tell you about what your commitment to the Word should be? What does Psalm 119 say about the importance of a real passion for God's Word?

Scripture: Colossians 4:17

What does Paul want them to say to Archippus about his ministry (his serving)? Where does the requirement for service in the church come from according to this verse?

Scripture: Colossians 4:18

What is Paul's last exhortation of this epistle; what does he want them to remember? How do you think Paul might be using that to exhort them in what he said in the previous two verses?

Personal meditation time with Jesus:

Paul's exhortations in this passage can be achieved in us only when we embrace fully the call in Matthew 16:24 to deny ourselves, pick up our cross and follow Jesus. Are you committed to God's Word, to serving God, and sacrificing yourself for His sake and for others? Or is most of your time spent on worldly and selfish pursuits? Spend some time meditating and praying on Matthew 16:24, and ask yourself if what it says represents how you truly live your life.

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

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

Matthew 16:24