WEEK SIX

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message NOTES

ROOTED FORWARD

Colossians 4:7-18

MESSAGE THEME:

Rooted Deeper in Mission

The deeper we're rooted, the further we reach.

Colossians 4:7-18 ESV

7 Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.

8 I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts,

9 and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.

10 Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him),

11 and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me.

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.

13 For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis.

14 Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas.

15 Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

16 And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, "See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord."

18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

message notes

message notes

WEEK SIX: SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

ROOTED FORWARD

READ TOGETHER:
Colossians 4:7-18

MESSAGE THEME:
Rooted Deeper in Mission

CATCH UP

Watch the message, get the digital small group guide
and report life change at thepointva.com/rooted

SUMMARY:

As Paul closes his letter to the Colossians, he highlights people, partnerships, and shared purpose. Colossians 4:7–18 reminds us that the Christian life is never lived in isolation. The deeper we are rooted in Christ, the more our lives extend outward in mission.

Paul names ordinary people who faithfully played their part in God's greater story—encouraging, serving, praying, and carrying the message of the gospel forward. This passage shows that mission is not reserved for a few, but is the natural overflow of a life grounded in Christ. When we are deeply rooted, we are free to look beyond ourselves and participate in what God is doing in the world around us.

ICEBREAKER:

What's one project or goal you were part of that required a lot of teamwork to succeed?

ROOTED FORWARD

READ TOGETHER: Colossians 4:7-18

MESSAGE THEME: *Rooted Deeper in Mission*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Paul ends his letter by naming people and relationships. Why do you think community and partnership matter so much in God's mission?

2. Many of the people mentioned in this passage played supporting roles rather than center-stage roles. How does that challenge common ideas about significance or impact?

3. What does it look like to be faithful in the role God has given you, even when it feels small or unseen?

4. How does being rooted in Christ give us confidence to engage in mission rather than retreat into comfort?

5. Paul highlights encouragement and prayer as vital to the church's mission. Why are these often undervalued forms of participation?

6. Mission is not just about going somewhere else—it's about living with purpose where we are. Where has God already placed you to reflect His love and truth?

7. How does generosity of time, energy, or resources become part of living on mission?

8. What fears or obstacles most commonly hold people back from living outward-focused lives?

9. How does remembering that we are part of a bigger story shape how we approach daily responsibilities?

10. In what ways can our group live more intentionally "rooted forward" together?

APPLICATION:

1. What is one simple step you can take this week to participate in God's mission—through prayer, encouragement, generosity, or service?

2. Who is one person God may be inviting you to invest in spiritually during this season?

Closing Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for inviting us into Your mission. Help us stay deeply rooted in You while living with eyes open to the people around us. Use our lives—big and small—to reflect Your love and advance Your purposes. Amen.

daily DEVOTIONALS

WEEK 6 – ROOTED FORWARD

Colossians 4:7-18

The gospel advances through ordinary people with extraordinary devotion.

DAY ONE: MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

READING COLOSSIANS 4:7-9

Paul begins his final greetings by highlighting Tychicus and Onesimus—two faithful men who carried this letter to the Colossians. Tychicus was a beloved brother and fellow servant.

Onesimus was once a runaway slave, now restored and called "faithful and beloved." This reminds us that mission is deeply relational. God uses messengers, not just messages. And He redeems unlikely people for vital purposes.

REFLECT + RESPOND

Who are the "Tychicus and Onesimus" in your life—those who have encouraged or carried the message of Christ to you?

How has God redeemed unlikely parts of your story to serve others?

Ask God to show you someone who needs encouragement this week.

Paul mentions Aristarchus, Mark, and Justus—Jewish believers who stood with him. These three were "a comfort" to Paul during a difficult season.

The word comfort here comes from the Greek *parakaleo*—the same word used for the Holy Spirit (John 14:16). These men were agents of encouragement and strength to Paul in his mission.

Encouragers aren't passive—they're powerful.

REFLECT + RESPOND

Who in your circle might need you to be a comforter this week?

How has God used others to build you up in your hardest seasons?

Write or speak encouragement to someone who may feel alone on the journey.

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

READING COLOSSIANS 4:12-13

Epaphras, the founder of the Colossian church, is highlighted again—but this time for his *prayer life*. He "struggles" in prayer for them to stand mature and fully assured in Christ.

This is intercession. It's not passive—it's spiritual work. His prayers reflect Paul's own desires for the church's growth and perseverance.

Faithful prayer fuels faithful mission.

REFLECT + RESPOND

What does it look like to "wrestle" in prayer for someone else?

Who could you begin praying for daily this week?

Ask God to give you Epaphras-like intensity in your prayer life.

DAY FOUR: THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

READING COLOSSIANS 4:14-15

Luke, the beloved doctor and author of the Gospel and Acts, is mentioned here—alongside Demas, who later abandoned Paul. Paul also sends greetings to Nympha, a woman leading a house church.

This reminds us that the mission of God is diverse. It includes men and women, doctors and pastors, the faithful and the struggling. Everyone has a part to play—and everyone needs perseverance.

REFLECT + RESPOND

What unique gifts has God given you to contribute to His mission?

Are there people in your life who need to be called back into faithfulness

Pray for endurance to finish strong in the calling God has given you.

DAY FIVE: FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

READING COLOSSIANS 4:16-17

Paul encourages the Colossians to share the letter with others—and then singles out Archippus: "See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord."

This is a clear and direct charge. Archippus' work mattered, and Paul wanted the church to support and challenge him to complete it.

We need people who speak into our calling and help us finish what God started.

REFLECT + RESPOND

What ministry or calling has God placed in your hands right now?

Who encourages you to "fulfill" what God has given you to do?

Reach out to someone today who needs that same encouragement.

Paul closes with a personal note: “Remember my chains.” He signs the letter himself, reinforcing the authenticity of his message.

These final words are simple but weighty. They remind us that the mission isn’t always easy—but it’s worth it. Paul stayed faithful, even in chains. And he extended grace to the very end. This is what it means to be rooted forward: to give, serve, love, and endure for the sake of the gospel.

REFLECT + RESPOND

Where is God calling you to stay faithful, even when it’s hard?

How does Paul’s example of perseverance shape your own?

Living a rooted life isn't about checking boxes—it's about taking daily steps of obedience as you follow Christ. As you finish this 6-week journey through Colossians, take time to reflect on what God has shown you and how He's inviting you to live differently.

Where do I feel most rooted right now—and where do I feel most unsteady?

What would change in my life if I truly believed that my identity in Christ is more foundational than my performance for Christ?

How is God inviting me to grow deeper—in trust, transformation, rhythms, or mission—through this study?