

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.

The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- Compare Colossians 1:28 with 3:16. What connections do you see between Paul's method of ministry and what we are called to? What differences?
- What does it mean to say that Paul's method and goal are scalable to each of us?
- Discuss the Haeurwas and Willimon quote (pg 2). In what way does allowing scripture, an ancient text, determine our message, make a moral declaration?
- What are some of the ways the peace of Christ is unique when compared to peace in a general sense? What does Colossians 1:21-22 say about the starting point for peace?
- Are you living in biblical peace, or just hanging out with "Wilson"?
- When we mature in Christ (i.e. Christ is formed in us), how does that change how we live, what we do with our lives, or what motivates us?
- How did this message speak to you? Were you prompted by the Spirit to take action in any particular way?
- What is God calling you to do in order to be that last mile of cable, that last 20 yards, connecting it into the lives of others?

Why Do We Do It That Way?

Jerry Cisar — August 13, 2017

Text: Colossians 1:25-29; 3:15-17

Introduction

I. Paul's Mission Statement (Colossians 1:25-29)

A. The Goal of Paul's Mission: *Maturity in Christ*

B. The Method of Paul's Mission: to present to his audience *the word of God in its fullness*

i. *"He is the One we proclaim...."*

ii. Why proclaim Him?

iii. Back to the goal: *That we might present everyone mature in Christ.*

II. My Role in the Mission of Paul

A. My goal: *presenting you mature in Christ*

B. My method: *expository preaching*

i. The Sufficiency of Scripture

a) 2 Timothy 3:14-16

b) Good leadership is ultimately defined by the destination.

- *My personal vision as a pastor is that God will use the ancient text to transform you and me together into what **God wants** us to be and **not** what you or I want us to be.*

Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon: *"The very act of reading and preaching from scripture is a deeply moral act in our age, a reminder of the source of pastoral authority."*

III. Your Role in This (Colossians 3:15-17)

A. Let the peace of Christ Rule in (you all's) hearts.

i. Biblical peace begins by restoring peace between us and God. Colossians 1:21-22

ii. And all who are reconciled to God are called to peace... not to tranquility on a deserted island, but tranquility and peace in the midst of engaged relationships with others.

B. *"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you (all) richly as you teach and admonish one another."*

i. Paul's method scales down to us.

ii. So Paul's goal must also scales down to us.

iii. V16 is not talking about a Bible study.

C. *"Whatever you all do..." (17).*