

Six-Day Bible Study Plan:

Colossians 3:18–4:18

“Living Under the Lordship of Christ”

Paul closes Colossians by showing us what the supremacy of Christ looks like in ordinary life. The gospel does not merely change what we believe on Sunday; it changes our marriages, families, work, prayer, speech, relationships, and ministry. Whether we are 13 or 86, these verses call us to live every part of life consciously under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

Monday — Christ Is Lord of Our Relationships

Read: Colossians 3:18–19

Focus Verse — Colossians 3:19

“Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.”

Study Question:

How does Christ’s command that husbands love, rather than deal harshly with their wives, demonstrate the kind of sacrificial love that should characterize Christian relationships?

Personal Application:

The gospel changes how we treat the people closest to us. Because Christ has loved us with patience, mercy, and grace, we should not excuse harsh words, bitterness, impatience, or selfishness toward others.

Today consider whether the people closest to you experience the love of Christ through the way you speak and act toward them.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today, pray through **Ephesians 4:32**:

Lord help me to be *“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”* . . .

Tuesday — Obedience Is Ultimately About the Lord

Read: Colossians 3:20–21

Focus Verse — Colossians 3:20

“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.”

Study Question:

Why does Paul ground a child’s obedience to his or her parents in pleasing the Lord rather than merely keeping peace in the family?

Personal Application:

Although this command speaks specifically to children, it teaches every Christian something important about obedience: **our obedience is ultimately directed toward God.** We should ask ourselves whether

our desire is simply to appear obedient before others or genuinely to please Christ. Whatever our age, we should want our obedience to flow from a heart that loves the Lord.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today pray through **Colossians 3:20**

Wednesday — All of Life Is Service to Christ

Read: Colossians 3:22–4:1

Focus Verse — Colossians 3:23

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”

Study Question:

How should knowing that Christ is our true Master change the way we approach ordinary responsibilities, even when no one notices or appreciates what we do?

Personal Application:

Our usefulness to Christ does not end when we leave the workplace, graduate from school, or retire from a career. “Whatever you do” includes schoolwork, employment, caring for family, serving the church, helping a neighbor, and the quiet responsibilities of retirement. Today identify one ordinary responsibility and deliberately do it **for the Lord**, remembering that faithfulness matters to Christ even when nobody else sees it.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today, pray through **Colossians 3:17**

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Thursday — A Church That Prays Together

Read: Colossians 4:2–4

Focus Verse — Colossians 4:2

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.”

Study Question:

What do the words “**steadfastly**,” “**watchful**,” and “**thanksgiving**” teach us about the kind of prayer life God desires from His people?

Personal Application:

Prayer should not merely be something we turn to when circumstances become difficult. God calls us to steadfast, alert, thankful prayer. Today intentionally pray for our church—for our older members, younger

members, families, leaders, visitors, and those who do not yet know Christ. Especially ask God to make us a congregation that depends upon Him rather than our own strength.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today pray through **1 Corinthians 12:12-19**

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body . . . “

Friday — Make Christ Known

Read: Colossians 4:5–6

Focus Verse — Colossians 4:5

“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.”

Study Question:

What does it mean to “walk in wisdom toward outsiders,” and how does the way Christians live either strengthen or weaken our witness to those who do not know Christ?

Personal Application:

God has placed unbelievers around us for a reason. They may be classmates, coworkers, neighbors, family members, caregivers, or longtime friends. We should not assume that opportunities to speak about Christ will always be available. Today identify one unbeliever God has placed in your life, pray specifically for that person, and look for an opportunity to demonstrate or speak the grace and truth of Christ.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today, pray through **Colossians 4:5–6**

“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

Saturday — Every Member Has a Ministry

Read: Colossians 4:7–18

Focus Verse — Colossians 4:17

“And say to Archippus, ‘See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.’”

Study Question:

What does Paul’s instruction to Archippus teach us about the responsibility of every Christian to faithfully use the opportunities, gifts, relationships, and responsibilities Christ has entrusted to us?

Personal Application:

We do not need a title, position, or platform to serve Christ. In a growing church, every believer matters—from the teenager learning to follow Christ to the retired believer who has walked with Him for

decades. God has given each of us people to encourage, burdens to carry, prayers to offer, truth to share, and work to accomplish. I will ask: **“What ministry has the Lord placed before me in this season of my life, and am I faithfully fulfilling it?”**

Theme for the Week

Because Christ is Lord, there is no part of the Christian life that is spiritually insignificant. Christ is Lord over our homes (3:18–21), our work (3:22–4:1), our prayers (4:2–4), our witness (4:5–6), and our service in His church (4:7–18). The gospel does not call us merely to believe certain truths about Jesus; having been raised with Christ and made new by grace, we are called to live every part of life under His gracious rule.

Scriptural Prayer:

Today, pray through **1 Peter 4:10-11**

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”