

***The Others Who Make Ministry Happen!***

***Colossians 4:6-17***

Sermon Series: Clash Of Kingdoms, Pt.10

August 30, 2015

**Colossians 4:6**, *Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.* <sup>7</sup>*Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.* <sup>8</sup>*I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts.* <sup>9</sup>*He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here.* <sup>10</sup>*My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.)* <sup>11</sup>*Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me.* <sup>12</sup>*Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.* <sup>13</sup>*I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis.* <sup>14</sup>*Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.* <sup>15</sup>*Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.* <sup>16</sup>*After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea.*

**Ecclesiastes 4:9**, *Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work:* <sup>10</sup>*If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!*

**The Others Who Make Ministry Happen:**

1) Two Were **MESSENGERS**

**Colossians 4:7**, *Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.* <sup>8</sup>*I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts.* <sup>9</sup>*He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here.*

- **One Had A STEADFAST HEART**

**1 Corinthians 16:3**, *Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem.* <sup>4</sup>*If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.* (Acts 20:7; Ephesians 6:21-22; Titus 3:12; 2 Timothy 4:12)

- **One Had A SINFUL PAST**

**Philemon 1:17**, *So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.* <sup>18</sup>*If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me.* <sup>19</sup>*I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self.* <sup>20</sup>*I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.* <sup>21</sup>*Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.*

2) Three Were **COMFORTERS**

**Colossians 4:10**, *My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.)* <sup>11</sup>*Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends*

*greetings. These are the only Jews among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me.*

- **One Had A COURAGEOUS HEART**  
*Acts 19:29, Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia, and rushed as one man into the theater. (Acts 20:4, 27:2)*
- **One Gets Very LITTLE ATTENTION**
- **One Had A PREVIOUS FAILURE**  
*Acts 13:13, ...Paul and his companions sailed to Perga...where John left them to return to Jerusalem. Acts 15:37, Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark. <sup>38</sup>but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them and had not continued with them in the work. <sup>39</sup>They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, <sup>40</sup>but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers... <sup>41</sup>He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. (2 Timothy 4:11)*

### 3) **The Other OTHERS**

**Colossians 4:12**, *Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. <sup>13</sup>I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup>Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. <sup>15</sup>Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. <sup>16</sup>After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea. <sup>17</sup>Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord."*

- **One Had A Strong Commitment To PRAYER AND WORK**
- **One Was INCREDIBLY GIFTED**  
(Acts 16:10, 20:5, 27:1; 2 Timothy 4:11)
- **One LATER STRAYED**  
*2 Timothy 4:9, Do your best to come to me quickly, <sup>10</sup>for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me... <sup>11</sup>Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.*
- **One Opened THEIR HOUSE**  
*Acts 2:46, Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

#### **Paul's Conclusion:**

**Colossians 4:17**, *"See to it that you complete the ministry you have received in the Lord."*

#### **Putting This Passage Into Practice:**

- We are all called to serve, regardless of talents, gifts, abilities, resources or past, simply stated God has a place for you to serve. Without you doing your part—"the ministry isn't complete!"