

Session 14: SOLO

Colossians 4 v 7-18—In this together

Big idea:

To remind us of the joy of Christian friendship and the importance of encouragement

Guidance on questions:

2. Eleven

3. Tychicus and Onesimus

4.

v7—fellow servant

v9 —dear brother

5.

v7—he calls Tychicus “fellow servant”

v9 —Onesimus—“dear brother”

v10—Aristarchus—“fellow prisoner”

v11—“fellow-workers”

6. Paul talks about people as equals—united in their love and service of Jesus. He loves them, cares for them and needs them for his ministry.

Being locked up in a prison would be pretty miserable without any companionship or knowledge that people were with you, thinking of you and praying for you.

7. Six—they were committed to the Colossians too. It wasn't a case of “out of sight, out of mind”. The Christian brothers loved and cared for each other, wherever they were.

8. A mixture, some of Jews but mostly Gentiles—all united.

It shows it doesn't matter whether they're Jews or Gentiles —they're united in Jesus.

9. Epaphras was the one who had started the church in Colossae.

He was wrestling in prayer that they would stand firm—that they would be mature and fully assured of who they are in Christ.

He's working hard for the Colossians, and those in Laodicea and Hierapolis.

10. Brothers at Laodicea, Nympha and the church, and that Archippus would keep going.

11. They're united. They're in different places—some in prison, some close, some far away. Some are travelling to Colossae, some are still far away, but what unites them is the gospel. Their love for Jesus (2 v 2-3).

Paul loves people, and he truly loves and is connected to God's people. He's not a one-man band, doing his own ministry.

He doesn't think it's all about him. He loves, he cares, he encourages, he builds up, he supports, and he sends people.

QUESTIONS: you could ask to check understanding of Session 14

1. Did Paul think he could be a Christian on his own? (No, he was involved with many people who helped and encourage him, and who he helped and encouraged.)
2. What was Paul really concerned about? (People becoming Christians and continuing to live as Christians.)
3. It would be great to talk through the "D: THE END" section on page 76 together.