**LifeGroup Study**

**YOU’RE RICHER THAN YOU THINK**

**Love Changes Everything**

**2022-05-29**

**Participant Notes**

**OVERVIEW:**

Welcome back to our series, You’re Richer Than You Think. This week we’re looking at Colossians Col. 3:18-4:1 & 4:7-18. In Christ we are to re-arrange our households. Jesus is now the master of our homes and we are to follow his model of self-giving love. This week’s LifeGroup study gives you a chance to reflect on your life. How different is it from the culture? How much do you truly embrace the way of submission(3:18), love(19), obedience(20), encouragement(21), hard work(23) and justice(4:1)? Our goal is that all of us would experience the joy of being called to a new way of life.

**ICEBREAKER:** My Love Language

Have you heard of the love languages? All of us feel loved in different ways. We have our own love language. Here are 5 love languages – things that make you feel loved. 1. Words of Affirmation. 2. Acts of Service. 3. Receiving Gifts 4. Quality Time. 5. Physical Touch. What would you say is your top love language? Why is this one top for you? **Share your love language with the group!**

**STUDY:**

1. In his teaching on Sunday, Pete talked about how in Christ we are to rearrange our households to be a place of self-giving love. **What was a highlight for you from Pete’s teaching?**

READ: Colossians 3:18 – 4:1 and 4:7-18

READ: Philemon – As we go through today’s study, notice how themes in this study are lived out in Paul’s appeal to Philemon.

1. Read Colossians 3:18 and Ephesians 5:21-22. Here we have the first aspect of self-giving love in a Christian household – “*submit* to one another”. What about the idea of mutual submission do you resist? **What would it look like to embrace this?**
2. READ Colossians 3:19 again. Also read Ephesians 5:25-33. A key ingredient in a Christian household is *self-giving love*. Here we have the command, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her …” (Eph. 5:25). Spend some time talking about self-giving love in a family. **When have you seen this? What could you do to model this?**
3. READ Colossians 3:20 again. Also read Ephesians 6:1-3. In these passages we read how children are to respond to their parents in a Christian household – “Children, *obey* your parents…” (Colossians 3:20). **What do you see in these passages about why children should obey their parents?**
4. READ Colossians 3:21 and Ephesians 6:4. Here we have another key virtue of a Christian household - *encouragement*. Rather than exasperate (discourage) their children, fathers are to treat their children is a way that encourages them to grow up loving and following God. **What does this look like?**
5. READ Colossians 3:23 and Ephesians 6:5-8. Another important attribute of a Christian household is *hard work*. Although Paul wrote these verses about slaves, he was not condoning slavery. Rather, Paul encourages Christ-followers to work hard. **What does Paul tell us in these verses about a healthy work ethic?**
6. READ Colossians 4:1 and Ephesians 6:9. In these verses we read about another important trait for Christian households – *justice*. Notice in the Ephesians passage that Paul writes, “In the same way …”. In other words, masters should relate to their slaves in the same way Paul advises slaves to relate to their masters. The implications of this are brought out in a powerful way for us in Paul’s appeal to Philemon, the master of a runaway slave. **What do you see in these verses about how to relate to one another with justice?**
7. God calls us and shapes us to be people who demonstrate self-giving love. **What do you sense God saying to you about showing self-giving love to others?**

**EXPERIENCE GOD**

LISTEN: Reckless Love – Cory Asbury <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sc6SSHuZvQE>

PRAY: “God, thank You for your reckless love for me. Help me to love as You love.”

**COLOSSIANS DEVOS:**

Each week of this series we have 5 devotionals for you to read on your own.

Read the devos this week and notice how this habit enriches your walk with Jesus!

<https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/richer-than-you-think/>

**PRAY**

This week, let’s pray for our local outreach, The Big Serve! <https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/thebigserve/>

* The Big Serve is happening this week!! Please pray for everyone who will be serving in and around our community.
* Please pray for our volunteers to learn something new and be impacted by our local partners in a lasting way.