

September 8, 2024

Conversations: Crucial Conversations (Colossians 4:6)

Warmup: In your school career who was your best friend? What quality about them drew you into a strong friendship?

READ Colossians 3:12-25, Colossians 4:6

- After reading these passages what are the characteristics of God's chosen people? What binds these virtues together?
- What is Paul's instruction to Christians in verses 18-22? Paul furthers Christ's teaching to include the work relationship. In Rome, households often included family servants. How would you bridge the context of verse 22 to align with your current job?
- What is God saying to you in these verses?

REFLECT

- Why might Paul preface "Rules for Christian Households" with verses 12-17?
- Read Col 4:6 aloud in the New Living Translation (NLT). Have you thought of your conversations as "attractive," why or why not? **Divide into groups of 3** and answer the following: what two words describe the majority of your conversation within the context of marriage, kids, family (singles), and workplace?
- FUN BREAK: If you had to choose a "spice," how would you describe your conversations? Seasoned with just the right amount of salt, spicy cayenne, healthy turmeric, Mrs. Dash - a bland salt substitute, Lawry's seasoning salt, or sweet basil?
- **In your group of 3**, discuss when you are most challenged to practice Col 4:6.

RESPOND

- **Remaining in your group of 3:** how long does it take you to "self-correct" when conversations go awry – your way and not God's way of grace and attractiveness? What support do you have in place for your most challenging conversations? If you lack support, problem solve in your group of 3 to implement a support person or supply line.

"To transform religious and irreligious people into Fully Devoted Followers of Christ."

- CHAIR TIME: this is a time of personal reflection between you and God. Recording your thoughts in a journal or on this paper encourages your next step in transformation.

Life Group Leader: lead your group in Lectio Divina – read Colossians 3:12-17 aloud slowly.

- What word, phrase, or image stands out to you?
 - Life Group Leader read the passage aloud one more time.
 - What word, phrase, or image is revealed?
 - Compare your takeaways from the first and second readings. What is God revealing to you through His Spirit?
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- If comfortable you can share what God revealed during Chair Time, and then some can share how they will follow Jesus in implementing what was revealed.
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- A vital takeaway: We are all in the process of being transformed until we see Jesus face to face. Transformation, the reshaping of our heart and mind, is the journey to becoming a Fully Devoted Follower of Christ.

Philippians 1:6

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

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