



OBSERVE & REFLECT

(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon)

READ Colossians 1:3-14

- Read the text at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.
- Reflect on the sermon from the weekend regarding this passage. What aspects or truths from the sermon left an impression on you and why?

INVESTIGATE & APPLY

(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the scripture)

- 1. In verses 19-20, Paul writes of his intention to send Timothy to the church in Philippi. What were the characteristics of Timothy's life that made Paul say, "I have no one else like him"?
 - Who are the "no one else like him/her" people in your life? Why them? What are the characteristics and demonstrations of their actions that have made them special or trustworthy to you personally?
- 2. Someone has said in a very real sense, all of us live either in Philippians 1:21 or Philippians 2:21. What's the differences) between the two?
 - What does it take for you personally to look beyond your own interests to the interests of Christ? What do you think those interests are? Where do you sense God may be calling for you to do that in some demonstrable way?
- 3. In verses 25-30 Paul speak highly of a man name Epaphroditus (whose name happens to mean "charming") referring to him as "my brother", "fellow worker", and "fellow soldier". How would you describe the difference between these three descriptions or identities? Which one would you most like to be said about you? Why?
- 4. In verse 30, Paul acknowledges that Epaphroditus "risked his life" for him and the work of Christ. What would you consider the riskiest thing you have ever done for someone else? What prompted you to do so?
 - Have you ever been prompted to "take a risk" for the cause of Christ? What was it? What was the outcome?