

We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, May 17, 2026



sermon: With Some Help from My Friends” Colossians 4:7-18

Big Idea: Only together will we accomplish all that God has called and gifted us to do.

I. Together, We Minister (vv. 10-13)

- A. Paul ends this letter to the Colossians by listing several personal acquaintances. In a letter focused heavily on doctrine and Christian living, this personal connection reminds us that:
 1. The church is the body of Christ, and it’s made up of people (cf. 1 Cor. 12:27).
 2. The people in the early church had everyday problems, just like us (cf. 1 Cor. 4:14).
 3. Paul shows his love for the church and his connection to others in it.
- B. As part of the Church, we all have a calling, purpose, and gifting given to us by God that requires the support and help of others to accomplish (vv. 11, 13; cf. 1Cor. 12:14-20).
- C. The church is called to minister in many ways, such that God is glorified, the Gospel is proclaimed, and broken lives are healed and restored (cf. 2 Cor. 5:16-21).

II. Together, We Challenge (V. 17)

- A. Accountability is a needed practice if we are to fully mature as God would have us do. God uses the challenges of life and the challenges of others to grow His people and to grow His church (v. 17; cf. 2 Tim. 4:1-2; Gal. 2:11-14).
- B. Accountability is not meant to be a hammer that punishes, but to encourage and challenge God’s people to grow and mature into a Christlikeness that fulfills their calling.

III. Together, We Encourage (vv. 7-9)

- A. We all need encouragement from time to time. The enemy often uses discouragement to tear us down, so we need to take the time to build each other up (cf. 1 Thes. 5:11; Rom. 1:11-12).
- B. How can we better encourage each other?
 1. Fellowship – We grow better together.
 2. Compassion (cf. Phil. 4:14-16) – We grow together when we care for each other.
 3. Prayer – We grow together when we pray for each other.

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