



Rooted

Homegroup studies in Colossians

Spring 2026

Happy New Year!

These are a new set of studies exploring Paul's letter to the Colossians.

The ESV Study Bible gives these words of introduction:

The church at Colossae [in modern day Turkey] apparently got its start during Paul's three-year ministry in Ephesus (A.D. 52-55). During this time a Colossian named Epaphras probably travelled to Ephesus and responded to Paul's proclamation of the gospel (see Acts 19:10). This new believer returned to his hometown and began sharing the good news of Christ, which resulted in the birth of the Colossian church (Col. 1:7). At the time of writing, Epaphras is with Paul in Rome and has likely shared the bad news that there was a dangerous teaching threatening the church at Colossae (4:12). Paul writes this letter to respond to this situation...

I hope you enjoy these studies and find them helpful.

With love & prayers,

James

p.s. If you would like to hear a Colossians memory verse song do ask for a rendition when you see me 😊

Weekly Plan – Spring 2026

7 January ⁺	Prayer Meeting (7 for 7:30pm)
14 January*	Study One: <i>Inclusion</i> (Colossians 1:1-14)
21 January	Study Two: <i>Power</i> (Colossians 1:15-23)
4 February	Prayer Meeting (7 for 7:30pm)
11 February	Study Three: <i>Toil</i> (Colossians 1:24-2:5)
18 February	Ash Wednesday Service
25 February	Study Four: <i>Influence</i> (Colossians 2:6-23)
4 March	Prayer Meeting (7 for 7:30pm)
11 March	Study Five: <i>Focus</i> (Colossians 3:1-4:1)
23 March	AGM (7 for 7:30pm)
25 March	Study Six: <i>Togetherness</i> (Colossians 4:2-18)
1 April	Prayer Meeting (7 for 7:30pm)
3-5 April	Easter Weekend
13-17 April	Holiday Club Week

⁺ Unless the Lord builds the house, the workers labour in vain

* All dates approximate, depending on your group

Study One: *Inclusion*

Colossians 1:1-14

Intro Q. Have you ever been refused entry somewhere?
Do share the story if it's suitable!

Read Colossians 1:1-14

- Q1. Read the whole passage. How would you describe its tone?
What do you think Paul might be seeking to achieve in these verses?
- Q2. Why can the Colossians be confident they are genuine Christians?
(v3-8)
- Q3. What do you make of Paul's prayer in verses 9-12? Can you draw a diagram that shows how the different parts might fit together?
- Q4. Look onto the last two verses of this passage. Why is it so good to be a Christian?
- Q5. How might this passage be of encouragement to us when we feel insignificant or unwanted?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

Study Two: *Power*

Colossians 1:15-23

Intro Q. If you could have any superpower what would you choose and why?

Read Colossians 1:15-23

- Q1. Who's being described in verses 15-20 (how do you know?) and what do we learn about him?
- Q2. Verse 20 has been understood by some to mean that everyone will be saved in the end. Does this view fit with the rest of the passage?
- Q3. Verses 15-20 show Christ's authority and power then over all things – even over life and death. Why is this good news for the Colossians? (v21-23)
- Q4. How might this passage be of encouragement to us when we feel weak or unimpressive?
- Q5. How might the devil try to pull you down and away from the Lord Jesus? What could you do to ensure you 'continue in the faith'?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

Study Three: *Toil*

Colossians 1:24-2:5

Intro Q. What tasks can you think of that require a lot of effort?

Read Colossians 1:24-2:5

- Q1. What has Paul told the Colossians so far in this letter?
- Q2. Today's passage is a bit of extra information for the Colossians before Paul hits home with the main course of his message. What does he talk about in this section of the book and why?
- Q3. What's the logic of chapter 2 verses 1-5?
- Q4. How do you think the Colossians might have felt to hear this section of Colossians? How would you have felt if you were one of them?
- Q5. How is Paul an inspiring model for us? What can we remember when we're finding it difficult to love those around us?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

Study Four: *Influence*

Colossians 2:6-23

Intro Q. What would you say are the marks or characteristics of an influential person?

Read Colossians 2:6-23

Q1. Look first at verses 6-10. In the light of the greatness of Jesus, what does Paul want the Colossian believers to do?

Q2. Imagine two people: Colin the Colossian and Iffy the Influencer.

Colin is one of the Colossians whom Paul is writing to, warning him about people like Iffy.

Look through the whole passage – what kinds of unhelpful things might Iffy be saying? Make a list.

Q3. Look at verses 11-23. What does Paul say about Jesus in these verses?

Q4. Reflect: Whose opinions really matter to you?

How can we value the thoughts and opinions of others without potentially being led astray?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

Study Five: *Focus*

Colossians 3:1-4:1

Intro Q. What activities can you think of that require careful focus and attention?

Read Colossians 3:1-4:1

- Q1. Take a look through this passage. What repeated words can you spot?
- Q2. Look at verses 1-4. Why should the Colossian believers hold loosely to the things of this world?
- Q3. Look on to verses 5-11. What should the Colossians say goodbye to and why?
- Q4. To what extent do verses 12-17 describe the opposite of verses 5-11? Draw out as many pairs of opposites as you can.
- Q5. What areas of life are 3:18 - 4:1 concerned with? How might what Paul's said so far in this letter help the Colossians to follow these instructions?
- Q6. What could you practically do to rekindle a joyful Christian mindset when you feel like you're losing it?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

Study Six: *Togetherness*

Colossians 4:2-18

Intro Q. What activities do you like doing (a) with others, (b) by yourself?

Read Colossians 4:2-18

Q1. Make a list of all the different people mentioned in this passage. Do any stand out to you? If so, why?

Q2. What do we learn about prayer in these verses?

Q3. Why might the Colossians not continue steadfastly in prayer? How does Paul help them with this in today's passage?

Q4. St Matthew's currently has six different mission partners. How many can you name and say where they're based?

Q5. What do you see in today's passage that we could imitate that would help improve these partnerships?

Q6. Should Christians be doing everything together? Answer with reference to some of these verses. What things should introverted Christians remember?

Q7. Think back over these studies. What's something that's encouraged you, and something that you're going to act on?

Conclude with a time of prayer.

