
Colossians

Introduction to Colossians

Colossians, one of Paul's shortest letters, is also one of the most exciting. Paul composed this letter sometime around AD 60–61 from a prison cell, having been arrested for teaching about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and inviting people to trust and follow Jesus. In this letter, he was writing to a church he'd never met—Paul's friend and co-worker Epaphras started the church near his hometown Colossae. Epaphras had visited Paul and asked him to send his growing church community encouragement and instruction as they were trying to counter some false teachings and learn how to follow Jesus in the face of significant cultural pressures.

Writing to a young church that was in the early process of discovering what it was like to follow Jesus Christ, Paul challenged and encouraged them to dig in and explore the beauty and power of the gospel and to order their lives around it. While Paul's primary reason for writing was to instruct this young church in Christian maturity, there are numerous themes explored in this letter—Jesus Christ, holiness, purpose, and the church—that we can learn from and apply regardless of where we are in our personal faith journey.

This 21-day devotional is designed to help you read, think about, and apply the wisdom and truth of this ancient letter to your daily life. It's our hope that as you journey through this, you will grow to know Jesus more and come to experience the full life he has for you.

How to S.O.A.P.

S – Scripture: What verse stood out to me?

Open your Bible to your reading for the day. Take time reading and pay attention to what stands out to you. Make note of what encourages you, what bothers you, and even which parts you don't quite understand. When you're done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you and write it in your journal.

O – Observation: What does it say?

What is the meaning of what you just read? First, what do you think it meant to the original audience? Then consider what God is saying to you in this Scripture. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and help you understand what you've read.

A – Application: How can I apply it?

Personalize what you've read by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps this includes instruction, encouragement, a new promise, or correction. Write down steps you can take to apply this Scripture to an area of your life.

P – Pray: Ask God to help you use what you've learned.

This can be as simple as asking God to help you apply this Scripture... or praying for greater insight about what he might be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say! Take a moment to write it out.

How to Get the Most Out of Your Journal

SCHEDULE YOUR READING

Pick a time and place free from distractions so you can read, think, and pray. Whether it's first thing in the morning or part of winding down before you go to sleep, the important thing is that you pick the time and place—and stick to it!

READ WITH A FRIEND

Read with someone who will hold you accountable to your daily reading.

SHARE WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING

Don't just read it! Share how God's word is speaking to you.

Day One

Scripture (Colossians 1:1–5)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Two

Scripture (Colossians 1:6–8)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Three

Scripture (Colossians 1:9–13)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

all things were created For in
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Day Four

Scripture (Colossians 1:14–18)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Five

Scripture (Colossians 1:19–23)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Six

Scripture (Colossians 1:24–29)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Seven

Scripture (Colossians 2:1–5)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

continue

continue

to live

to live

your lives

your lives

in him

in him

Day Eight

Scripture (Colossians 2:6–10)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Nine

Scripture (Colossians 2:11–15)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Ten

Scripture (Colossians 2:16–19)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Eleven

Scripture (Colossians 2:20–23)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Twelve

Scripture (Colossians 3:1–4)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Thirteen

Scripture (Colossians 3:5–8)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Fourteen

Scripture (Colossians 3:9–11)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

clothe
yourselves
with
compassion,
kindness,
humility,
gentleness
and patience

Day Fifteen

Scripture (Colossians 3:12–14)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Sixteen

Scripture (Colossians 3:15–17)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

do it all
in the
name of
the Lord
Jesus

Day Seventeen

Scripture (Colossians 3:18–22)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Eighteen

Scripture (Colossians 3:23–4:1)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Devote
yourselves
to prayer

Day Nineteen

Scripture (Colossians 4:2-6)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Twenty

Scripture (Colossians 4:7-11)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____

Day Twenty-One

Scripture (Colossians 4:12–18)

Observation _____

Application _____

Prayer _____
