

Grace Downtown CG Discussion Guide

Oct 29 - Nov 1, 2018

Series: Promises of God

Colossians 3:15-17



Announcements:

Kingdom Prayer: Join us at 4 pm on the first Sunday of each month to pray for our church, our city and our world. The next one is **Sun Nov 4**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall in the classroom on the right.

Faith & Work-Dinner Course: Does God care about the work you do? Is he more pleased with those in full-time ministry positions? Join us for a dinner course on the essential components of the Faith & Work ministry where we will work through how our faith impacts our work. **Friday Nov 9, 7:00 pm**. Church office, 637 Indiana Ave NW. RSVP online. Contact Sam Kim at sam426@gmail.com. **Deadline to register: 11/7**.

Prayer for the Persecuted Church: Join us for the 5th Annual Night of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Free and open to all. Hosted at the Chinese Community Church, 500 I Street, NW. **Sat Nov 10, 7:00-9:00 pm**. See website for more info.

Holidays: The holidays are fast approaching! We are having trouble finding members who will be in town on **Dec 23** and **Dec 30** and who can usher. If you are a member who plans to be in town one of those days, will you please let Bryan (bryan@gracedc.net) know?

Introduction:

As we prepare for the church retreat, we are studying a passage that speaks to what a Christ-filled community should look like. It contains three commands that have wide-ranging implications for all aspects of our lives, as well as our common life together.

Read and Discuss:

Colossians 3:15-17

Discussion Questions:

- 1.) What is the “peace of Christ?” Does this refer to peace between you and God? Peace within yourself? Peace with others? All of the above? (Hint: Read John 16:33, Romans 5:1-2, Colossians 1:19-20)
- 2.) How does the fact that we are “called” to the “peace of Christ” “in one body” impact our understanding of what that peace should look like?

- 3.) The word “rule” in verse 15 literally means to act as a referee or an umpire. What does an umpire or referee do? How should the peace of Christ act like an umpire in our lives, in our relationship with God, and in our relationships with others?
- 4.) According to verse 16, what does it mean to allow the word of Christ to dwell in us “richly”?
- 5.) What modifies the command to teach and admonish one another? Why is that important, and how should it impact our interactions with each other?
- 6.) What does it mean to do something “in the name of the Lord Jesus”?
- 7.) Verse 15, 16, and 17 all call us to approach these commands with a particular attitude. What is that attitude, and how does it link these three verses?

Application:

1. What are typical obstacles to allowing the peace of Christ to rule in our hearts?
2. When the peace of Christ rules our lives, what should our community look like?
3. Note that the command to teach and admonish in verse 16 is not limited to pastors or elders. How do you apply this command in your life?
4. What are some practical steps we can take to ensure that everything we do is done “in the name of the Lord Jesus”?

Prayer:

The Grace Downtown Prayer Team creates opportunities for our community to learn more about prayer together for our church family, our city, and our world. Throughout the coming week, the Prayer Team is asking our church community to pray...

...for all the gifts God gives us. Ask God to help us to set aside time each day to be grateful for his provision, even if it's not in the form we ask or expect. Help us to see

your grace in everyday interactions, errands, the outdoors, and other places we least anticipate.

...for our city as it gears up for political elections. Ask God to help us to place our ultimate hope in God. Ask for God's guidance and direction for our current leaders to make decisions that bring him glory. Pray for appointed leaders who will be wise, kind, and loving as they work on Capitol Hill and in their communities.

...for the preparation of our hearts before the Fall Retreat. Ask God to bring together all the last minute details and bless those who attend and provide opportunities for everyone to meet new friends and catch up with old friends. Pray that God prepares our community to grow as people dive into your word. Ask God to bless all who are in the front and behind the scenes at the retreat, for his glory.