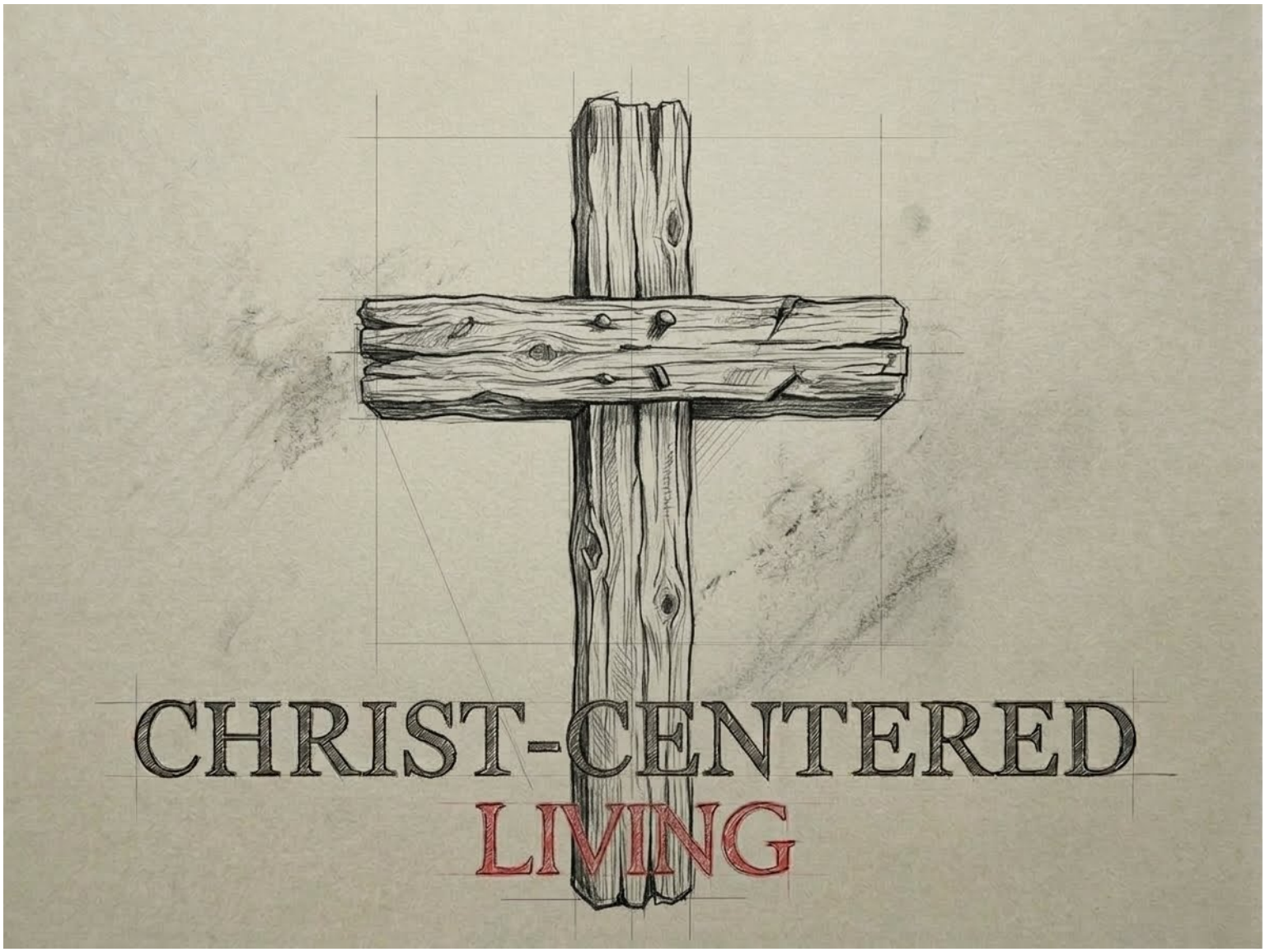
Colossians



YPC - 2026

Study 1: Colossians 1:1–14 — The TRUE Gospel

Getting Started

- What is your go-to way to start a conversation when meeting someone new?

Exploring the Passage

1. What is the overall message of this passage?

2. What are we taught about the gospel and the Christian life?

3. How have the Colossians responded to the gospel?

4. How did the Colossians come to hear the gospel (cf. 4:12)? What does this teach us about evangelism?

5. Paul prays that his readers would be filled with the *"knowledge of God's will and all spiritual wisdom and understanding"*. What does this mean, and what will be the outcome?

6. How will the Colossians be able to grow this way?

7. How are Christians encouraged to live, and what warnings (explicit and implicit) are given?

Reflection & Application

- What would be the tone of Paul's letter to our church regarding our response to the gospel?
- In what ways can our church improve, and how can you personally contribute to that growth?

Study 2: Colossians 1:15–2:5 — Super Supreme & The Mystery Made Known

Getting Started

- What kind of toppings do you get if you order a "Super Supreme" pizza, or what real-life mystery or historical puzzle intrigues you the most?

Exploring the Passage

1. What is the overall message of this passage?

2. What specific claims are made about Jesus in 1:15–20? Is there a way in which we could ever speak too highly of Him?

3. What does this passage say about humanity's condition before Christ, and how do believers gain a new standing (1:21–23)?

4. What is the "mystery" that Paul speaks of in 1:24–27, and how was it made known?

5. What is Paul's ultimate goal for his ministry, the Colossians, and the Laodiceans (1:28–2:5)?

6. What warnings does Paul give his readers in 2:4–5, and what cultural influences or pressures today threaten to lead people away from Christ?

Reflection & Application

- What are the areas of your life you struggle to submit to Jesus as supreme over all.

Study 3: Colossians 2:6–15 — No U-Turn

Getting Started

- Which traffic sign or road rule frustrates you the most?

Exploring the Passage

1. What is the overall message of this passage? Is "No U-Turn" an appropriate theme? Why or why not?

2. What core command are followers of Jesus given in verses 6–7?

3. What warnings accompany this command (v. 8)?

4. What is a "circumcision made without hands"? Why does Paul use this vivid language?

5. Is there a link between circumcision and baptism here, or are they describing different aspects of the Christian life?

6. What is our current status before God, and how did we achieve it?

7. Who are the "rulers and authorities" referred to in verse 15, and what is their status now?

Reflection & Application

- **Hypothetical scenario:** If a Christian were driving, failed to stop at a stop sign, caused a fatal crash, and—just before dying—swore in frustration without verbally repenting of that final sin, would they go to heaven? Why or why not? What does this teach us about the security of our standing in Christ?

Study 4: Colossians 2:16–23 — What Not to Wear

Getting Started

- What item of clothing sitting in your wardrobe do you dislike the most, and why?

Exploring the Passage

1. List some religious practices or man-made rules that people insist on today in an effort to appear godly. What does Paul say about these things producing true godliness?

2. What does Paul mean by calling these things "a shadow of the things to come”?

3. What reasons, other than true godliness, might motivate people to practice such religion?

4. If we do not rely on religiosity to be made right with God, how is true standing achieved according to this passage?

5. What is the "body" that Paul is talking about in verse 19, and who is the “head"?

6. How does Paul say the body (the church) receives nourishment, gets knit together, and experiences true godly growth?

Reflection & Application

- List some concrete examples of what healthy church growth looks like in practice.
- Considering this passage, what is the true value of traditional observances versus life in Christ?

Study 5: Colossians 3:1–17 — Extreme Makeover

Getting Started

- Makeover television shows often feature dramatic physical overhauls. If you were chosen for a show like that, what would you change, and why?

Exploring the Passage

1. What are the things that Christians have "died to"? Why does Paul use such strong terminology?

2. How might we actively seek and set our minds on "things that are above”?

3. Does Paul entertain the idea that someone might be "too heavenly minded for any earthly use"? Why or why not?

4. How are Christians encouraged to live, and what warnings are given?

5. Believers have been through an extreme spiritual makeover as children of God. How are we called to "dress" ourselves to reflect this new identity (vv. 12–14)?

Reflection & Application

- What would an extreme makeover look like for our church family and in your personal lives?

Study 6: Colossians 3:18–4:4 — Home & Prayer Improvements

Getting Started

- What home improvement project have you recently done, or what small everyday task do you tend to rush past when busy?

Exploring the Passage

1. What specific callings are given to wives, husbands, children, parents, slaves, and masters in 3:18–4:1?

2. How can we understand the command given to slaves and masters in our modern context (e.g., workplace relationships)? What is the underlying principle for us today?

3. When we submit, love, and serve in our relationships, are we doing it because the other person always "deserves" it, or is there a higher motivation (3:23)?

4. What does it actually mean to "devote ourselves to prayer" (4:2), and why is it often so difficult?

5. Consider these quotes on prayer:
   "God has given His followers the privilege of prayer and intercession. Prayer is a constant reminder that the human being is not autonomous."
   "God answers every prayer by either giving what is asked for or reminding the petitioner that God's provision is built on wisdom and executed in His time. But the answer is always for the instruction and nurture of the soul."

   How do these insights help shape our understanding of prayer?

6. How does Paul specifically ask his readers to pray for him in verses 3–4?

Reflection & Application

- How would your home life or workplace interactions improve if these relational precepts were followed closely?
- What is one practical step you can take this week to deepen your devotion to prayer?

Study 7: Colossians 4:5–18 — Contagious Christianity

Getting Started

- What is your reaction when someone around you has a contagious illness versus when someone is deeply, positively passionate about something?

Exploring the Passage

1. What is Paul's great concern for believers as they interact with "outsiders" (vv. 5–6)? What does it mean for speech to be "seasoned with salt"?

2. What character qualities does Paul highlight in the various people he mentions at the end of this letter (vv. 7–15)

3. This concluding passage reflects Paul's deep love and concern for the Colossians. How does he express that care, and what final instructions does he give (vv. 16–18)?

Reflection & Application

- As followers of Jesus how might we impact our local community?
- List some specific, practical ways we can obediently live out this passage in our day-to-day encounters with non-believers.
- How can you personally grow in your passion for the gospel, and how can you convey that passion to others?