

SERVING THE LORD BY SERVING OTHERS
Colossians 3:18- 4:18

Before you read the scriptures listed above, I sincerely hope that you will Google and read Tim Keller's sermon about the prophet Isaiah entitled "The Gospel and Your Self". It is the experience of a man who already serves God, but who is utterly changed when he is given a vision of the Lord in His Temple (Isaiah 6). I pray that it will give us, too, a new perspective on why we are to live our everyday lives "as unto the Lord."

1. Read the scriptures for this lesson in a couple of versions, as usual, asking the Lord to enable you to understand His directions to you. Think deeply about how your perspective on interaction in your human relationships may need to change. List some of them here - those you are willing to discuss in small groups. (ex. as a woman, wife, boss, employee, parent, et al)

2. Re-read 3:11, thinking about what a radical mix of disparate social, ethnic and religious types suddenly became "the Body of Christ." Have you experienced having to work and worship with people you had "nothing in common with" except your brother and sisterhood in Him? What problems have you encountered and how have you solved them?

3. When we discuss Col. 4:7 to the end of the letter we'll learn some background on the many fellow workers Paul mentions. You might want to look them up in a Bible dictionary for a deeper appreciation of the "motley crew" that the Lord had given Paul.

