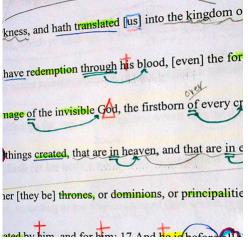
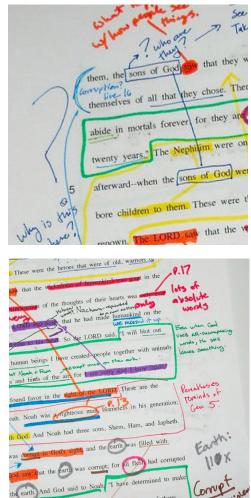


"It's really up to you exactly how you mark it up, but the important thing is to DIG IN"





## **Hello Vineyard Family**

We're excited to see what God has in store for us as we seek His perspective *on things above* through the book of Colossians! In addition to our teachings on Sundays, we're providing this booklet so we can go deeper into the scripture and invite the Holy Spirit to speak to us in even greater ways. This booklet is a tool for Manuscript Bible Study.

"Manuscript Bible Study brings us deeper into scripture so it can impact us in great ways"

## What is Manuscript Bible Study?

Manuscript study is a way to go through scripture that helps us understand what's really being said and apply it to our lives in deeper ways. It can also be a great way to discuss scripture with others. The booklet you're holding has the full text of the Colossians in the English Standard Version with no verse markings or headings, but with plenty of space between lines and around the page for you to mark up the text.

## How Should I Use this Manuscript?

Manuscript study is very flexible, but here's a general outline of how you could get started.

- 1. Select the portion of text you're going to focus on. You could choose just the section of text we went through this past Sunday, or you can go through the whole book and come back to specific sections later. Each time you come back to it, you can build on what you've seen previously!
- 2. Read the text aloud at least 1 time.

- **3.** Dive in by asking basic questions. Example questions are who's involved, what is happening or being discussed, when/ where does this take place?
- 4. Ask "why" questions regarding what the author is saying. As you go through the text, mark it up! Use pens, pencils, and highlighters (different colors are useful) to help you answer the questions. For example, you can circle places and people, put boxes around sections, or use specific colors to highlight repeated themes.
- 5. Write questions and notes in the margins or in the notes pages in the back. It's really up to you how exactly you mark it up, but the important thing is to DIG IN!
- 6. The main thing to do before and during your study is to invite Jesus into your time. Remember He wants to partner with you in this process of discovery. When you get ready to close your time, reflect on what you've seen and ask Him to point out specific things He would like to highlight to you at that time.

What if I Have Questions or Want to Discuss? Come and join us on the Slack channel #Colossians so we can discuss our thoughts and questions together! If you need help getting on Slack, or if you'd like to reach out to someone on the teaching team privately, e-mail the church office at vineyardoffice@stlvineyard.org and we'll connect you.

We're praying for the eyes of our hearts to be enlightened (Eph 1:18) as we soak in scripture together! "...ask Him to point out specific things He would like to highlight to you at that time" 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and 2 Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers in 3 Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our 4 Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus 5 Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 6 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you 7 8 have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 9 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is 10 bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, 11 since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God 12 in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your 13 14 behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit. 15 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray 16 for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of 17 his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to 18 walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: 19 bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the 20 knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, 21 according to his glorious might, for all endurance and 22 patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has 23 qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and 24

transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom 25 we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the 26 image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For 27 by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, 28 visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers 29 or authorities—all things were created through him and for 30 him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold 31 together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is 32 the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in 33 everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the 34 fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to 35 reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in 36 heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, 37 who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil 38 deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his 39 death, in order to present you holy and blameless and 40 above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the 41 faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the 42 gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all 43 creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a 44 minister. Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in 45 my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions 46 for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I 47 became a minister according to the stewardship from God 48 49 that was given to me for you, to make the word of God 50 fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God 51 52 chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are 53 the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning 54 55 everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that 56 we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works 57 within me. For I want you to know how great a struggle I 58 59 have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, that their hearts may be 60 61 encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the 62 63 knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I 64 65 say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. For though I am absent in body, yet 66 67 I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. Therefore, as you 68 received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted 69 70 and built up in him and established in the faith, just as 71 you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty 72

deceit, according to human tradition, according to the 73 elemental spirits of the world, and not according to 74 Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells 75 bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the 76 head of all rule and authority. In him also you were 77 circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, 78 by putting off the body of the flesh, by the 79 circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in 80 baptism, in which you were also raised with him 81 through faith in the powerful working of God, who 82 raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in 83 your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, 84 God made alive together with him, having forgiven us 85 all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt 86 that stood against us with its legal demands. This he 87 set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the 88 rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, 89 by triumphing over them in him. Therefore let no one 90 pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, 91 or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a 92 Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, 93 but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one 94 disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of 95 angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up 96 97 without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding 98 fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished 99 and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows 100 with a growth that is from God. If with Christ you died to 101 the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were 102 still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— 103 "Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch" (referring to 104 things that all perish as they are used)—according to 105 human precepts and teachings? These have indeed an 106 appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion 107 and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of 108 no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. If then 109 you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that 110 are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of 111 God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on 112 things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life 113 is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life 114 appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put 115 to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual 116 immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and 117 covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the 118 wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, 119 when you were living in them. But now you must put 120 them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and

obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one 121 another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its 122 practices and have put on the new self, which is being 123 renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. 124 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and 125 uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but 126 Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, 127 holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, 128 humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one 129 another and, if one has a complaint against another, 130 forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you 131 also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which 132 binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let 133 the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed 134 you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the 135 word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and 136 admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms 137 and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your 138 hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do 139 everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks 140 141 to God the Father through him. Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your 142 wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey 143 your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. 144 145 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become 146 discouraged. Bondservants, obey in everything those 147 who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, 148 as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing 149 the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord 150 and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will 151 receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving 152 the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for 153 the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. 154 Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, 155 knowing that you also have a Master in heaven. 156 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with 157 thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that 158 God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the 159 mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 160 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. 161 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use 162 of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, 163 seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you 164 ought to answer each person. Tychicus will tell you all 165 about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful 166 minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him 167 to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we 168 are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with

him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is 169 one of you. They will tell you of everything that has 170 taken place here. Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets 171 you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom 172 you have received instructions—if he comes to you, 173 welcome him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These are 174 the only men of the circumcision among my fellow 175 workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a 176 comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of 177 Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf 178 in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully 179 assured in all the will of God. For I bear him witness that 180 he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea 181 and in Hierapolis. Luke the beloved physician greets you, 182 as does Demas. Give my greetings to the brothers at 183 Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. 184 And when this letter has been read among you, have it 185 also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that 186 you also read the letter from Laodicea. And say to 187 Archippus, "See that you fulfill the ministry that you 188 have received in the Lord." I, Paul, write this greeting 189 with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be 190 with you. 191

## **Questions / Notes / Journal**




If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.



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