

Triangle Community Church aims to be a "transforming church". We exist to be used by God as He transforms ordinary people into extraordinary followers of Jesus Christ. TCC believes not only that life-change is possible—but that it is to be expected. Growth is God's will for his people. But transformation does not happen by accident. It requires intentional, intelligent action. 1 Timothy 4:7 instructs you to "discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness." Since "Talking Points, Walking Points" is intended both for individual reflection and for group discussion, questions vary in degree of vulnerability required. Generally it is best to begin group discussions with questions which involve less personal disclosure—but don't linger there. Be sure to "dive deep" too! The questions which require the greatest openness and honesty, as well as those in the section entitled "Digging Deeper in your Daily Quiet Time", are perfect for private reflection.

## **Questions for Reflection or Discussion**

• What from Sunday's message interested you? ...made sense to you? ...intrigued you? ...upset you? ...encouraged you? ...and *why*?.

...confused you?

Read Colossians 3:18—4:1 aloud. Then, keeping your Bible open...

What are all the imperatives (commands) in this passage, and to whom are they directed?

What are the indicatives (statements of fact) which undergird each command?

Mark all of the "logical connections" in this passage (such as "for", "as", "so that" and "knowing"). How do each of these connected pairs of clauses relate to each other?

- What do you learn about life within the family of God?
  Summarize Paul's family instructions in your own words.
- Are you making it easy for others to fulfill his/her God-given role? For each of the following roles...

Are you making it easier for your spouse to fulfill his or her marriage role toward you?

Are you making it easier for your parents to lead/counsel you? Your children to follow you?

Your boss to manage you? Your employees to serve you?

What can you do to make it even easier for each of those to whom you relate?

## Colossians 3:18-4:1

<sup>18</sup> Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

<sup>19</sup> Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

<sup>20</sup> Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

<sup>22</sup> Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth,

not with external service, as those who merely please men,

but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

<sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance.

It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

<sup>25</sup> For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

4<sup>1</sup> Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.

## **Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time**

"Five Question Bible Study" (see page below) is a simple way to study any topic. What do you learn about biblical relationships from the following passages?

Monday—Mark 3:20-21, 31-35 and 10:28-30

*Tuesday*—Proverbs 25:8-9, 21-22

Wednesday—Proverbs 11:12

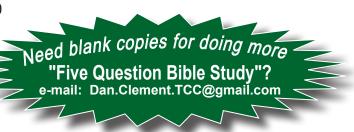
Thursday—Proverbs 14:20-21

*Friday*—Proverbs 27:6, 9, 10, 14 and 17

**Saturday**— In preparation for gathering to worship on the Lord's Day, read Colossians 4:2-18.

## **Five Question Bible Study**

Bible Text: Date: What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.] What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would *this text* answer it? What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text? What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.





With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]