



Colossians reveals that Paul doesn't just want to bring people to Christ; He wants to bring people to maturity in Christ. And Paul knows the fruits of faith, joy and love grow when a disciple is firmly grounded in all that Jesus is. So he calls on believers then and now to go deeper in Christ...to be **ROOTED**.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by reminding us that the mission of our church is to *make and grow followers of Jesus. We want to see people come to salvation in Christ, and we want to see people come to maturity in Christ.* That is what this series has been about. With that in mind, what are 1 or 2 key things you've been convicted of during this series? Follow up: **Read Colossians 1:6.** What should be the result of a life rooted in Jesus? Share examples.

2 PRAY OPEN doors for the sake of the gospel. *In prayer we don't just anticipate opportunities for the gospel, but we create opportunities for the gospel.* **Read Colossians 4:2-4.** What stands out to you the most from these verses and how should that shape the way we live on mission (what role does prayer play in this)?

3 Paul was a man rooted in the mission of Christ. Look back at **Colossians 4:3-4** and read **Ephesians 6:19.** How might persistent prayer help us stay sharp, alert, and ready to share our faith? Follow up: What is one thing you can do this week to become more devoted to prayer?

4 BE OPEN to any opportunity to talk about Jesus. *We should look for what we ask for—doors that unexpectedly open.* Share a story of how you've experienced God open some doors recently. Follow up: **Read Colossians 4:5-6.** What steps will you take this week to make the most of the time you have with people who need Christ in their lives?

5 Rick also pointed out that *when opportunities arise, rooted believers seek to speak...but they always lace with grace.* **Read 1 Peter 3:15-16.** In which situations is it easiest for you to talk gracefully, using language seasoned with salt? In which situations is it most challenging?

6 STAY OPEN to all the people God can find and use in the mission. *Paul closes this letter about lifting up Christ by building up a lot of people.* **Read Colossians 4:7-18.** Why do you think Paul takes the time to mention so many people by name? What stands out to you the most about what he says about them? Follow up: Name someone God put in your life at a certain time for good reason. Explain. Who is someone you need to encourage this week and how will you do that?

7 Rick closed by reminding us that *"The church is not to be a filling station where the cars stay at the pump. We gather for fuel, and we scatter on mission."* Why is that so important to remember and often so hard to do? Follow up: Spend some time praying about the two things Rick asked us to pray about (1) *for the person you know that needs to talk about Jesus* and (2) *for the person you don't know that God is about to put in your path.*

