

Title: Colossians: Union with Christ and His Church, Pt 8: “Ruled by Thankful Union with Christ” – Colossians 3:15-17

Big Idea: Be RULED by thankful union with the PEACE, WORD, and NAME of Christ!

Read Colossians 3:15-17.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. Be RULED by the PEACE of Christ!

Read Colossians 3:15 again. What do you think Paul means by “the peace of Christ?” What does it mean to let it rule in our hearts?

Read Colossians 1:19-20. How was peace with God made possible? Why was this necessary?

Read Romans 5:1. How do we receive peace with God?

Read John 14:27. Describe your own personal experience of the peace of Christ.

How does our peace with God get expressed in relationships with other members of Christ’s body? See Colossians 3:12-14.

2. Be RULED by the WORD of Christ!

Read Colossians 3:16. Pastor Greg said in his message: “The peace of Christ rules where the word of Christ dwells!” Why is this true?

The Word of Christ dwells in us richly when we hear it, believe it, and apply it to our lives in the power of the Holy Spirit. What are some ways that you intentionally seek this in your life?

It is the responsibility of every believer to “teach and admonish” other believers. We “teach” when we explain the Word of God to each other and make it clear. We “admonish” when we urge each other to obey the Word and lovingly correct each other when we don’t. How has God used your growth group to teach and admonish you?

Why is singing to God such a normal and important part of a Spirit-filled life? How has God used worship music in your life?

Do you practice the discipline of memorizing Scripture? Why or why not?

3. Be RULED by the NAME of Christ!

Read Colossians 3:17. Why is the “whatever you do” command more appropriate in following Jesus than a list of rules?

What do you think it means to say or do something “in the name of the Lord Jesus?”

What is one area of your life right now where you need guidance from God? How would it help you to ask the question: “What would Jesus say or do in this situation if He were me?”

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18 and Ephesians 5:20. Why should we, as believers, give thanks IN all things and FOR all things? What does this practically look like?

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - Have you received peace with God through faith in Jesus? If not, there is no better time than now. Would you pray with me?
 - Will you commit to prayerfully memorizing portions of God’s word on a weekly basis? The Fighter Verses app is a good place to start. You can also go to www.fighterverses.com.
- With Others:
 - Do you have an unreconciled conflict or relationship in your life? Will you take the next step in letting the peace of Christ rule in that situation?
- On Mission:
 - Use your words and actions to share the love of Jesus with an unbeliever. Consider inviting them to our Patriotic Picnic, Car Show, and Worship Service that is coming up the weekend of June 29-30.