

# Colossians

## Chapter 4 (Page 955)

### Verses 1-6

1. In what way does this letter end the same way it began?
2. What strategies for outreach and recommendation does Paul recommend? Can you think of ways that Jesus implemented these strategies in his ministry?

### Verses 7-18

See below for a little more information on each of the people mentioned in this section of Paul's letter:

Tychic (Acts 20: 4; Ephesians 6:21; 2 Timothy 4:12; Titus 3:12). He delivered the letter to the Colossians.

Onesimus (Philemon 10). A slave of a member of the Colossian church who had fled to Paul and was now being returned to his master, Philemon.

Aristarchus (Acts 19:29; 20: 4; 27: 2; Philemon 24). A traveling companion of Paul who accompanied him on his third trip and on the trip to Rome along with Luke.

Mark (Acts 12:25; 15: 36-40; 2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24; 1 Peter 5:13). A Jewish man who had worked with Paul and Barnabas on several occasions and was now with Paul in Rome.

Barnabas (Acts 4:36; 9:27; 15: 36-40; Galatians 2: 9,13). A faithful member of the church for many years, Paul's friend and companion in the work.

Jesus, also called Justus (which is only mentioned here). A companion of Paul in Rome.

Epaphras (Colossians 1: 7; Philemon 23). Leader of the church in Colossae. He probably delivered the Colossus report that caused this letter.

Luke (2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24; see also Paul's travels in Acts). Paul's travel companion and his assistant especially in Macedonia. He also accompanied Paul to Rome. It is only here that Luke is identified as a physician. However, there are indications of his medical background in his writings.

Demas (2 Timothy 4:10; Philemon 24). A companion of Paul who unfortunately abandoned him.

Nympha (mentioned only here). A woman who opened the doors of her house to Christians in Colossae.

Archippus (Philemon 2). A companion in the work of the church in Colossae.

3. Read Acts 12:25, Acts 15:36-39, and 2 Timothy 4:11 (which was written very near the end of Paul's life). What lessons can Christians learn from the story of the relationship between Paul and John Mark?

4. Many mission churches begin by meeting in the homes of members? What advantages would there be for the church in such a location? What would be the disadvantages of holding worship services in private homes?

### **Conclusion**

5. In 7 to 9 words, develop a summary for the book of Colossians.
6. What is the main law message of Colossians?
7. What is the main gospel message of Colossians?