

► **Outline**

Today's message is based on Colossians 4:7-18.

*I have sent him to you for this very purpose—to let you know how we are doing and to encourage you.* **Colossians 4:8 (NLT)**

**Connections are formed when we:**

1. Risk \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Colossians 4:7-9. C/R 1 John 1:3)

a. About \_\_\_\_\_.

b. About our \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ alongside someone.  
(Colossians 4:10-11. C/R: Ephesians 4:16)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ with someone.  
(Colossians 4:12-13. C/R: James 5:16)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ others with someone.  
(Colossians 4:14-18)

**Lord's Supper: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

**Answers:** 1. transparency 1a. self 1b. experiences 2. Serve 3. Pray 4. Remember

**Resource Information:** Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from NLT version (New Living Translation) of *The Holy Bible*. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

## ► Discussion Guide

Use this guide with friends or on your own to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. For additional Bible Study tools, guides and devotionals, check out: [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com), [bible.com](http://bible.com), [youversion.com](http://youversion.com) and [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org).

### Conversation Starter

Have you ever had a close friendship with someone that drifted apart over the years? If so, what do you miss about that person? What impact did he/she have on your life?

### Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Colossians 4:7-18](#).

1. List the people mentioned in this passage, then write down specific ways Paul describes them.
2. Which of these characteristics is most inspiring to you? Why?
3. How did these relationships impact Paul's life and ministry?
4. Why do you think it was important for Tychicus and Onesimus to tell to the Colossian Church *everything that was happening* with Paul and his companions in Rome?
5. How important have Christian friendships been in your life? Describe.
6. When you think about our community at Brookwood, whose life and ministry have you benefitted from? Have you thanked those people recently?
7. In what ways can you be more active in your support and care for others within our church?

8. What is it about being involved in a ministry or mission opportunity that seems to cause strong bonds of friendship between people who might not have been close before?
9. What are ways you could become more involved in ministry-grounded friendships like this? What might be the result in your own walk with God if you did?
10. Paul ends by asking the Colossians to *remember my chains*. What should be our attitude and response to Christians around the world being persecuted for the faith? See also [Hebrews 13:3](#).
11. What will you remember most from this week's teaching and discussion?

### Soul Training

Who in your life could use some extra words of encouragement right now? Make a point to pray for him/her every day this week. Ask God to give you a great idea about how you could be a good friend to this person, then act on how God leads you.

### Memory Verse

*I have sent him to you for this very purpose—to let you know how we are doing and to encourage you.* [Colossians 4:8 \(NLT\)](#)

### Daily Reading

Day 1: [Colossians 4:7-18](#)

Day 4: [Romans 15:25-27](#)

Day 2: [Hebrews 13:3](#)

Day 5: [2 Corinthians 13:11-14](#)

Day 3: [Ezekiel 34:11-15](#)

### Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, September 9, we will be reviewing the *2018 - 2019 Ministry Plan* and celebrating how God has transformed lives at Brookwood.

