

**First Christian Reformed Church
Life Group Spring 2024**



TASKS

Week 2 - Apr. 14, 2024

Colossians 3:18-4:1

Welcome

We live in a peculiar time and place in human history. The United States is the richest, most prosperous country in the history of the world. Through most of human history, famine and starvation was a major threat to human life. Now, in the United States, we have so much food that obesity is a real threat to our health.

Which begs the question, what happens when we use God's gifts carelessly? What happens when we use God's gifts in a way that honors him?

We hope to answer those questions and more in the following weeks as we search the scriptures to discover God's will for us as we use his gifts in the following areas:

1. Terrain (God's creation)
2. Tasks (work)
3. Time
4. Treasure
5. Temple (our bodies)
6. Transmission (the gospel)
7. Talents

Join us as we learn how the Lord would have us steward the gifts he's given us!



Preparing for Life Group

1. If you're bringing a new person to the study, we recommend getting them study materials ahead of time so they can feel prepared.
2. Pray that the LORD will open your eyes and heart to receive the lessons he has to teach you in the study.
3. Read the scripture focus for the study.
4. Go through the questions and think about how you might answer them. We've provided space in the study for you to write down your answers if you'd like.

Confession Corner

from the Belgic Confession Article 14:

“...For who can boast of being able to do anything good by oneself, since Christ says, “No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me”?¹ Who can glory in their own will when they understand that “the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God”?² Who can speak of their own knowledge in view of the fact that “those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God’s Spirit”?³

In short, who can produce a single thought, knowing that we are not able to think a thing about ourselves, by ourselves, but that “our competence is from God”?⁴ And therefore, what the apostle says ought rightly to stand fixed and firm: God works within us both to will and to do according to his good pleasure.⁵ For there is no understanding nor will conforming to God’s understanding and will apart from Christ’s involvement, as he teaches us when he says, Apart from me you can do nothing.”⁶

1 - John 6:44, 2 - Romans 8:7, 3 - 1 Corinthians 2:14, 4 - Corinthians 3:5, 5 - Philippians 2:13, 6 - John 15:5

What We Believe

1. Read Colossians 3:18-4:1. What tasks does the LORD have for wives, husbands, fathers, children, and bondservants?

2. According to our text, who does everyone work for?

3. What results should Christians expect if they work according to the instructions in our text?

What responsibilities did the LORD give Adam in Genesis 2:15?

Stewarding Tasks

Questions to consider when stewarding tasks.

1. Why do you work?
What are your motivations?
2. Why do you do the type of work you do?
3. What type of work pleases God?
4. Does your work please God?
5. Why is work difficult?
6. Should I continue doing work, even if it's difficult?
7. How do you measure success in your work?
8. Did the Lord call you to the work you're doing?

God Speaks to Us

Cross References

Col. 3:18 - Eph. 5:22

Col. 3:19 - Eph. 5:25

Col. 3:20 - Eph. 6:1

Col. 3:21 - Eph. 6:4

Col. 3:22 - Eph. 6:5

Col. 3:23 - Eph. 6:7

Col. 3:24 - Ac. 20:32

Col. 3:25 - Dt. 10:17

Col. 4:1 - Eph. 6:9

1. Our text points out roles like husbands, wives, and slaves, with their accompanying tasks. What role(s) do you currently fill? What tasks are appropriate and God-honoring for the role(s) you fill?

2. For each person in your Life Group state your profession (if retired, your former profession- stay-at-home parent IS a profession as well). How does/did God work through the profession he called you to?



God Speaks to Our Families

1. Many young people immersed in the social media landscape are convinced that upon graduating from college they should be able to get a job that pays at least \$100k/year, and are often surprised they have to do what other people tell them to do for that money. Why has our society devalued hard work and yielding to proper authority? How can we counter that notion?

2. Read Genesis 1:26, 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12, and Ephesians 4:28. Why is work an important part of our Christian life? How can we teach this value to our children?



“True Christians delight in sacred activity; in that respect, they are likened the angels of God, ‘that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word,’ and like the glorified saints above, who, ‘serve him day and night in his temple.’ A life of Christian activity down here is a fitting prelude to a life of heavenly activity up there. The best Christians are those who serve God the most.”

- Charles Spurgeon

God Speaks in Worship

1. Make a list of tasks that must be completed before and after worship on Sunday morning by staff and volunteers. How do we thank these servants? Do we thank them enough?

2. What gifts has the Lord given you that you might use to glorify God in worship? Are you using them?

Further Reading

The Bible has a lot to say about God's work. Check out these scriptures to learn more about God's will for our work!

- Genesis 3:17-19
- Leviticus 19:35-36
- Leviticus 23:3
- Ecclesiastes 5:18-10
- Proverbs 12:1
- Proverbs 14:23
- Matthew 6:24-33
- Galatians 6:4-5
- 2 Thessalonians 3:10-11

The Gospel Call

1. Cite three examples of Christians working hard for the kingdom of God that resulted in a positive witness of our faith.

2. Read Matthew 28:16-20. Is this command for us today? If yes, can any of us dismiss ourselves from the task of sharing the gospel, even if it's not our gift? If no, explain why not.

