“Reaching Upward, Inward and Outward” David Owens
Colossians 1:9-14 1/13/19

Introduction:
A. Every once and a while, it is helpful for us to back up and go over the __________.

I. Reaching Upward
A. Our entire spiritual life is dependent on our relationship with _______.
B. Colossians 2:6-7
   1. Note the important aspects of staying ______________ to God.
C. John 15:1-11
   1. When we _______ in Christ, we _______ in his love, we produce __________ and our _______ is made complete.
D. How can we abide in Christ?
   1. Through spiritual practices like Bible ____________, Bible _________, ______________ and ______________.

II. Reaching Inward
A. Each of us have to live the Christian life as an ______________, but that doesn’t mean we go it _________.
B. When we become a Christian, God makes us a ____________ of His _________.
C. The church isn’t an ________________, it is living _________________.
D. Colossians 3:12-16
   1. We see in those verses a lot of ___________ ____________ commands.
E. John 13:34-35
   1. When we are effectively loving each other in the church, truly being the __________ of God and the __________ of Christ, then the world will take notice.
F. It is very hard to be __________ with God’s family if we are __________ ______ God’s family.
G. How to be reaching inward this year:
   1. Be ___________ and be _____________ to each other.
   2. Establish _________________.
   3. Find ways to use your __________ and ___________ to bless.

III. Reaching Outward
A. How sad and selfish to view the church as some exclusive _______ that exists only to meet _______ needs.
B. Mark 16:15
   1. The “Great Commission” often becomes the “Great ______________.”
C. 1 Corinthians 3:6-7
   1. Our job is to __________ and _______; God’s job is to make it _________.
D. Colossians 4:2-6
   1. Reaching Outward begins with _________________.
   2. Reaching Outward continues with making the most out of every ________.
   3. Reaching Outward includes being gracious in our _____________.