

Series: *Colossians: The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Christ*
Part 2: *Living out the Sufficiency of Christ (chapters 3-4)*
Lesson: *Gospel Partnership*
Text: *Colossians 4:7-18 (L15)*
Date: *Sunday, May 6, 2012*

*Colonial Hills
 Baptist Church*

INTRODUCTION

In these final verses of Colossians, Paul teaches us three important lessons from this list of people:

- First, gospel ministry is a _____.
- Second, gospel ministry is _____.
- Third, gospel ministry is _____.

To summarize, these verses demonstrate that the mature Christian recognizes that Christianity is teamwork in a mission, and they see the “big picture” of what God is doing around the world. Or, we could say it this way: Christ-wrapped Christians will partner together for the sake of the gospel. Instead of mandating that in these verses, Paul models it for us. And in so doing, he exemplifies three practices of gospel partners.

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL SHARE _____ (vv. 7-9).

1. *Sharing news should be* _____.

2. *Sharing news is* _____.

Application:

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL SHARE _____ (vv. 10-15).

1. *Gospel ministry can be* _____ (v. 11).

2. *Gospel ministry can be* _____ (vv. 12-13).

3. *Greetings remind us of the larger team.*

Application:

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL SHARE _____ (vv. 16-18).

1. *This exhortation is* _____ (v. 16).

2. *This exhortation is* _____ (v. 17).

3. *This exhortation is* _____ (v. 18).

Application:

CONCLUSION

Perhaps before studying Colossians, partnering in gospel ministry was a foreign concept to you, because to you gospel ministry was more of something you go to (e.g., a church service) than something you engage in (e.g., missional living and discipleship). Having come to the end of Paul’s short letter to the Colossian church, we can no longer think that way. Paul has clearly demonstrated that “this is your life” or, more specifically, “Christ is your life” (3:4). If we have given our belief, heart, and life to Jesus Christ, then we will willingly partner with others who seek to follow Him as Lord, too. Because that’s what Christ-wrapped Christians do—they partner together for the sake of the gospel, so that Christ may be glorified in all things.