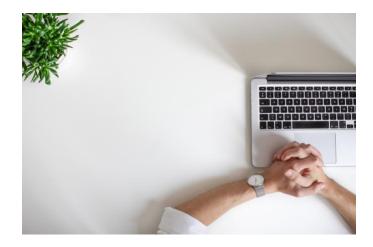
050723

The Servants of Christ

Col 3:22-4:1 Eugene Kwon



Background

We have arrived at the final chapter of the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Colossians -- and to our final series of sermons on this letter! Having explained how Christ's Rule and Return changes the way we view ourselves, participate in the believing community, and relate to those closest to us, Paul turned his attention toward our witness to the world outside the Church. Join us this Sunday as we consider how Christ's Rule and Return changes the way we engage with the world beginning with our workplaces.

Sermon Text: Col 3:22-4:1 (NIV)

3²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism.

4 ¹Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. What stands out to you the most from this sermon?

2. Sunday questions

- Eugene began with a review of the book of Colossians. What has stuck out to you the most from this study? For me (Shawn), it's the Christ hymn in chapter 1 "all things were created by him, through him and for him" (1:16).
- b. How do you respond to Eugene's acronym from his time in youth ministry (His point was that the Bible doesn't tell us <u>everything</u> about life here on earth. It tells us basic principles to pragmatically live for God in this broken world)?

Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth

- c. One key takeaway from Eugene's sermon was that "you are not your work." Do you struggle with work being your identity? Why or why not?
- d. Another key takeaway from Eugene's sermon was that we are to "work as if for Christ." Is this a new concept for you or do you typically think about doing your job "as an act of faith."
- e. Eugene ended his sermon quoting words from one of our teenagers, Peter Davis, after the youth trip to Mexico. Peter said this, "It was long hours of hard work, but our work had purpose and our purpose became our joy." Does the joy of the Lord define your work experience? Why or why not?