

## FROM JESUS TO EPAPHRAS TO PAUL COLOSSIANS 4:7-18

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: At the conclusion of Colossians we see the important function of different people in getting this letter to you.

**THROUGH TYCHICUS**—As this small church gathered together to hear Tychicus read Colossians, it could have been like today as your small group leader (a type of Tychicus, if you will) proclaims the Scriptures for the express purpose of encouragement and comfort. (**Colossians 4:7-8, fn 4:7, Colossians 2:1-3, Ephesians 6:21, 22, Romans 15:4, fn 15:4**) *What is the most encouraging Scripture in Colossians to you? Explain why.*

**FOR ANSWERED PRAYER**—God used Epaphras to help Paul see the problems of the Colossian church. But, more importantly, through Epaphras' answered prayer and the apostle's writing, you also see that you have everything you need in Christ Jesus. (**Colossians 4:12, 13, fn 4:12, Colossians 1:28, 29, fn 1:28, 29[1<sup>st</sup>], Colossians 1:7-13, fn 1:9-14[1<sup>st</sup>], Colossians 2:9, 10, fn 2:9, fn 2:10**) *How does knowing you have been given fullness in Christ give assurance of maturity?*

**TO YOU**—Like Archippus you have a part in giving Christ's message to others. Since you have received a gift of ministry you, too, can complete the work along with Archippus, Epaphras, Tychicus, and Paul. (**Colossians 4:17, fn 4:17[2<sup>nd</sup>], Colossians 4:2-6, fn 4:3, fn 4:4, fn 4:5, Romans 12:3-8, fn 12:6-8, Colossians 2:6, 7**) *What gift has God given you? How are you fulfilling your assignment?*

*How is your relationship with your spouse or others? (I Peter 3:7, Matthew 5:23, 24)  
What sin, if any, do you need to confess? (James 5:16)*

