## **GETTING STARTED**

Have you seen God deliver someone from something immediately? How about things that took a fight?

## QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words? Was there anything that was difficult or anything you disagreed with?

Why is it important to stay rooted in the supremacy of Jesus Christ, his authority and power and ability to make peace through his blood, shed on the cross? Are there practices that help us stay rooted in this?

Dave last week said there are two ways to experience transformation: 1. Putting to death our old nature and 2. Putting on our new nature. What makes this practice difficult for you? For those you know? What are the things that bring us back to our old nature?

Is there a couple whose marriage you admire? What are the qualities you see in a "strong" marriage?

Is there someone that you know who displays integrity in their work? What are the character qualities you admire and how do they mirror Christ?

Based on the two questions above, who can you encourage? Maybe tell the couple with the good marriage what a gift that has been to you? Perhaps tell the person with integrity that you noticed and were encouraged by it!

## **EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Colossians 3:18-4:1 & Ephesians 5:21-33]**

Read Ephesians 5:21-33. What differences do you see in Colossians? What similarities? How are marriages a picture of the gospel of Christ? (Ephesians 5:31-32)

Why does it matter that a slave has both "sincerity of heart and reference for the Lord"? Can you have one without the other? (3:22)

What do you think Colossians 3:25 means?

How can Masters model God? (4:1) In what ways does God give us what is "right and fair"?

## **APPLY THE PASSAGE**

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage? What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage? How can we pray for each other?