

Raising Hope

January 9, 2022 | Epiphany Sunday

Colossians 1:9–14 | Preparing for the Task at Hand

In Colossians, Paul calls those that proclaim Jesus as Lord to live out their faith through action in their neighbourhoods. But, he recognizes that neither they nor he can live this faith without the gifts and power of God. So, Paul begins his letter seeking God to really do the things for which he prays. Jared Siebert will remind us that as members of the same church, Paul is praying this same powerful prayer over us as we seek to embody Jesus in our neighbourhoods.

January 16, 2022

Colossians 1:15–23 | Rooted in the Truth

In our series, Kingdom Seeds, we talked about our roots being planted in the soil of the kingdom. Colossians helps us to understand that Jesus is the kingdom. Unfortunately, the church is always being tempted to plant their roots into other, seemingly more attractive, soils. Paul calls us back to first things. If we are going to embody Jesus in our neighbourhoods then we must continually and intentionally root ourselves back into the person of Jesus and his redeeming work for us.

January 23, 2022

Colossians 2:6–15 | No Other Power but Christ

Human beings have a terrible habit of doing the wrong thing for the right reasons. Think of Israel in the wilderness: Moses is presumed dead so they charge Aaron to make them gods to lead them on to the promised land. In the same way we always run the risk of seeking a seemingly greater power than the gospel as we engage our neighbours. But, Paul reminds us that all other powers are inferior to Christ.

January 30, 2022

Colossians 3:1–11 | Shedding Skin

Christians live in two places at once. First, we live right here, on earth, in Regina, walking around and interacting with our family, friends, and neighbours. But, we also live in Christ who rules with God in heaven. But while we live in the two places, we cannot live out of both places. They are mutually exclusive. Therefore, as we embody Jesus in our neighbourhoods, we are purposefully strange. Only in this way can we invite them to also be in Christ.

February 6, 2022

Colossians 3:12–17 | Life Together

The church, which includes Northview, is meant to be an alternative community to the culture. Paul teaches us the attitudes and characteristics we need to practice on a daily basis to be such a community. We are to be marked by a willingness to forgive, a love for each other that unifies, and a seeking of peace that allows us to learn from each other.

February 13, 2022

Colossians 3:18–4:6 | Integrity

Integrity is a virtue that means I live out the same in character in private as I portray in public. Who we are to our neighbours and who we are with Northview must be lived out in our homes as well. We need to embody the message of Christ in our households. Then, when our neighbours ask about our strange faith we will have the grace to answer them.