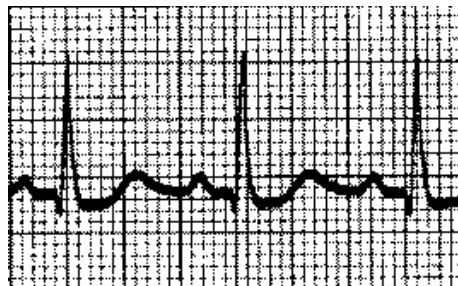


FOLLOW-THROUGH

“Life Teams”

Sermon 7 in the Series “ALIVE!” based on Colossians
Small Group Discussion around the Sunday Message
February 18, 2007



Introduction

1. Read Colossians 4:2-18 aloud.
2. What are some of your favorite sports teams? Name some of the players on those teams.
3. Share a team experience you've had that has had a significant impact on your life.

Putting the Passage to Work

1. Look closely at vss. 2-4. Note that Paul asks for specific prayer. For what exactly does he need prayers? How good are you at asking for prayers? Do it often or not?
2. **A “Life Team” is a set of people who help you accomplish God’s purposes for your life.** They intentionally support and encourage you. Paul had such a Life Team. What do you think each of these people brought to Paul’s life?
 - Tychicus (vs. 7)
 - Aristarchus (vs. 10; see also Acts 19:29, 20:4, and 27:2)
 - Mark (vs. 10; see also 2 Tim. 4:11)
 - Epaphras (vs.. 12-13)
 - Luke (vs. 14)
 - Nympha (vs. 15)
3. Paul served on the Life Teams of others, too. Identify what Paul may have brought to the lives of these three people: Onesimus (vs. 9; also book of Philemon); Mark (vs.10; also Acts 15:36ff) and Archippus (vs. 17).
4. If someone said to you, “Finish what you started!” what would they be talking about?
5. Why do you think we are so unintentional about getting the help we need along the way of life?

Digging Deeper

1. Think about your small group. In what ways is your small group a Life Team?
2. Paul wrote this while under house arrest in Rome, chained to a guard. When have the encouragement and prayers of others truly blessed you at a time when you were “in chains?”
3. In your own life it’s crucial to name specific members of your Life Team, to identify what they bring to your life, to inform them of their role, and to thank and encourage them. Try to come up with a name for each of these roles on your personal Life Team.
 - Encourager
 - Helper
 - Discerner
 - Prayer Supporter
 - Admonitor (someone who speaks the truth in love to you, even if it hurts)
4. Who needs you right now to play one or more of the roles above in their life? In other words, who needs you on their Life Team right now?
5. Finally, who stands out as a “star player” on your Life Team, someone for whom you really give thanks today?
6. Close with a prayer of thanks for all our Life Team players and for each other.