

# LIFE

Group Study Guide  
January 10, 2010  
David Clayton  
Colossians 3:16  
"Rich in God's Word"

## Opening:

On the website there is a link to how churches of Christ are helping in the Haiti relief. There is also a link to contribute to the Haiti Relief effort online. Go to [www.summervillechurchofchrist.com](http://www.summervillechurchofchrist.com)

1. Why do you think that many people don't believe the Bible to be the Word of God?
2. Why do many people believe that there are many "holy books" and the Bible is just one of them?
3. What is your reaction to the statement, "It doesn't matter what you believe, just as long as your beliefs are sincere?"
4. From David's message this morning, what was the most helpful to you?

## DIG

*Read the first part of Colossians 3:16 (we'll cover the rest of the verse over the next couple of weeks).*

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly . . . "*

*Read Proverbs 2:1-8*

- ✚ What words do you associate with being rich? How do those words relate to being "rich in the word of Christ?" (i.e. plenty, investments, etc.).
- ✚ What are the role of God, the role of faith, and the role of choice in having a deep rich relationship with God through Scripture?

*Read 2 Timothy 3:15; John 17:3; 1 John 4:7b-8*

*"you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15).*

One aspect of being rich in the Word is accumulated wisdom. What does it mean to be "wise for salvation."

*"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3).*

Another aspect of being rich in the Word of Christ is knowing the real reason for living. How is living right more than just being a good person who does good things?

*"Dear friends let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who*

***loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love God does not know God because God is love” (1 John 4:7b-8).***

- ✚ Dwelling richly in the word of Christ develops a love for God and for one another.
  
- ✚ Interesting that throughout the New Testament the fulfillment of the law of Christ and the sign that we are a follower of Christ is love. How has this concept of love been watered down in our culture?
  
- ✚ Practically, how can we best demonstrate that we are rich in the Word of Christ?

### **REFLECT:**

***Read 1 Corinthians 8:1b-3***

***We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. The person who thinks they know something does not yet know as they ought to know. But the one who loves God is known by God”***

- How does arrogance interfere with our ability to know God?
- What is meant by the statement, “ the purpose of knowledge is not information, but transformation?”
- One benefit of being rich in the Word of Christ is gives us a proper worldview.
  - Do you agree or disagree that most people have no idea what their worldview is.
  - Privately reflect for a moment on how parts of you worldview might be out of alignment with Jesus.
- How can we help others move toward believing and living what Jesus believed and lived?
- Is there someone you know and love that resists faith in Jesus because “intellectually” they can’t accept the Bible as the Word of God? This week pray for them and ask God to give you an opportunity to share with them how the Word of God has enriched your life?
- If you had to give a defense for what you believe would you be able to do it?
  - Make a list of three questions about life, faith and God that you wrestle with.
  - Spend some time in the Word of God venturing an answer on your own.
  - Pray that God will give you the wisdom from Scriptures to enrich your life in those areas.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**