

**“Fellow Workers for the Kingdom, Part 1”**

*Sermon Notes*

- **For the sake of our mission, we will be faithful and fruitful when we band together as kingdom workers.**

*Workers who...*

(1) Establish a kingdom network (4:7-9)

(2) Exhort each other to persevere for kingdom mission (4:8, 11)

(3) Exercise our access to the King (4:12-13)

(4) Embrace our bond to the King (4:11-14)

**Next Week: Colossians 4:15-18 - "Fellow Workers for the Kingdom, Part 2"**

## **MEFC Community Group Study Guide**

For the Week of April 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Introduction: For reflection**

*Think about brothers and sisters in Christ whom you have had partnerships with, as you've been a part of churches or a network of Christians in your community, or even across the globe. How has being a part of a community of disciples helped you to be a disciple of Jesus? To make disciples of others?*

### **Context**

*Paul mentions 8 fellow workers. Study the following passages to learn about these 8 men from elsewhere in the Bible:*

1. *Tychichus - see Acts 20:4; Eph 6:21-22; Titus 3:12; 2 Tim 4:12*
2. *Onesimus - see Philemon*
3. *Aristarchus - see Acts 19:29; 20:4; 27:2; Phm 24*
4. *Mark - see Acts 12:12, 25; 13:5,6,8,13; 15:37-39; Phm 24; 2 Tim 4:11; 1 Pet 5:13*
5. *Jesus, called Justus - only found here in Col 4:11*
6. *Epaphras - see Col 1:7; Phm 23*
7. *Luke - see Phm 24; 2 Tim 4:11; see "we" passages in Acts, from 16:10 and on*
8. *Demas - see Phm 24; 2 Tim 4:10*

### **Observation and Meaning**

*What commendations does Paul give for the two men who bear news about his imprisonment?*

*Why do the Colossians need to be encouraged by Tychicus? (Hint: consider the concerns addressed by Paul earlier in the letter)*

*Given Paul's letter to Philemon, what kind of homecoming reception awaits Onesimus in Colossae?*

*How did Epaphras share the same ministry heart as Paul (consider Col 1:3-8 and 1:27-2:4)?*

*Paul banded together with others. What descriptors characterized this "band of brothers"?*

*In a single sentence of your own summarize Paul's main idea in these closing remarks.*

**Application**

*What have you learned or been reminded of, with regard to God's design for ministry partnerships?*

*What is hard about partnering with others? What sins get in your way of being a part of a team?*

*Envision how your church relationships will change. What is one actionable way you can commit to better partnering with other Christians?*