



## January 17th Discussion Guide

# Colossians 3:1-17 - Distancing

This is a 7 week study on Colossians 3:1-17 and a social media poll about what people wanted to say goodbye to from the past year and say hello to in the New Year. Content is themed on the Sunday sermon, but the guide can be discussed without viewing the sermon. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#)

### Prayer

Open your group in prayer. **Pray about who you would become if God changed one thing in your heart each week of this series.**

### Icebreaker (10 min)

1. How did you create unity in your life or in the world this week?
2. Share with your group about your favorite Bible. What translation is it? How did you pick it or where did you get it?

## Discussion (30 min)

1. This week we will discuss saying Goodbye to Distancing and Hello to Connection. Share one person or thing you have had to distance yourself from due to COVID. How has that impacted you?
2. This week read Colossians 3:1-17 from the **Passion translation**. *This passage comes from a letter written by the apostle Paul to the church in Colossae (modern-day Turkey) while he was in prison for sharing his faith in Jesus.* List key phrases that relate to connection?
3. Read Genesis 2:18, Prov. 27:17, Ecc. 4:10, 1 Cor. 12:25-26, 2 Cor. 1:3-4. Why are relationships so important? What do we gain from them?
4. Read 1 Cor. 3:16, Eph 2:21-22, 1 Tim 3:15. What does it mean to be “bricks in God’s temple”? What do you learn from this metaphor? How have you benefited from this type of connection?
5. Read Rom. 12:4-5, Col. 2:19. Why is this type of connection important? What is your role in the body of Christ?
6. Read John 15:4-8. Discuss this relationship/connection. What are you able to do with it? What are you unable to do without this connection? Share with the group how you stay connected to the Vine.
7. As believers, we are all part of God’s family. What are the benefits of family? Share a blessing you have received from being in a family (immediate family, church family, or other)
8. **Application question:** What will you do this week to put off distancing and put on connection? How will you intentionally connect with the body of Christ? (in-person worship, act of service, phone call, note of encouragement, etc)

## Closing Prayer

Father God, thank you for giving us a place to connect through our small group. Help us be strengthened, comforted, loved, and accepted by staying connected to Your body. Show us ways that we can be all that to others.