



ONE CHURCH.  
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS.



NEWPOINTE.ORG



# FIRST STARTS HERE

Is Jesus important or is He FIRST?

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# LETTER FROM DWIGHT

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Is Jesus important or is He FIRST?

There is a big difference in that question. Most of us would say “of course He is important,” but to ask if He is FIRST in every single part of our lives? That is the desire of our God. That He would be the priority, compass, and guide in every area of our lives.

This booklet and series will challenge and help you reflect on various aspects of your influence, lifestyle, generosity, and legacy as a disciple of Jesus. Please write your notes from the series in this booklet so you can refer to them throughout the coming months.

Spend some time thinking and reflecting on what God’s Word says and who we should seek to be in response to these truths. Our hope is that this series, along with your prayer times, will become a catalyst to help you deepen your relationship with God during this special season at NewPointe.

Regardless of where you are in your relationship with Jesus, we know He has more for you; and it is possible that the most life-changing, influential, and personally engaging days of your life could still be yet ahead. It is our privilege to walk beside you as you continue to take your next steps with Christ.



Lead Pastor

*And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. 2 Corinthians 8:5 NIV*



Sugarcreek Free Methodist was birthed out of tent revivals in Sugarcreek, Ohio. Earl and Anna Hershberger were some of the charter members who established the church. They came to know Jesus, left their Amish lifestyle, and gave their time and money to build a church that would call people to a life of holiness. They were shunned by their families, consequently, but Earl and Anna believed that God wanted to save thousands of people in their community.

1927

The congregation moved into their new building on Dover Road in Sugarcreek. Earl and Anna personally purchased the land for the building.

1976

Dwight Mason, a 24-year-old pastor, was “temporarily” assigned to Sugarcreek Free Methodist Church. Although his time was supposed to be limited, he has continued to be our lead pastor for the last 37 years.

1985

2006

The church relocated to the current location in Dover on State Route 39 and grew from 1,600 to 3,000 in attendance. Sugarcreek Free Methodist was renamed as NewPointe Community Church at the time of the move.

1996

The church was growing so much that an addition was added to the building that resulted in attendance jumping from 600 to 1,200 almost immediately.

# NEWPOINTE'S STORY

NewPointe went multisite and launched the Millersburg and Canton campuses on the same day!



NewPointe launched the Coshocton campus.



NewPointe launched the Cambridge campus.



NewPointe left the Free Methodist domination and became a non-denominational church.



NewPointe launched the Wooster campus in the spring and an Akron campus in the fall. The Akron campus later merged with our Canton campus.



NewPointe has a rich history of God displaying His faithfulness over and over again. Where we have been has greatly influenced where we are going, and we want our church to have an understanding of the past so we can lead well into the future.

*Inside NewPointe 2022*

# SPOTLIGHT ON CAMPUSES

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## CAMBRIDGE

Volunteered at the Guernsey County Night Out, which connects public safety and community partners. Was also involved with Treats on the Trail, helping foster relationships between NewPointe and young families.

## CANTON

Additions of new ministries areas that include a Young Adults Group, Retirees Lunch, and Student Services. Opened Kids Play Area that is used both on weekends and during the week.

## COSHOCTON

Served the surrounding community by hosting senior adults breakfasts, quarterly blood drives, and GriefShare® groups. Opened Kids Play Area that is used both on weekends and during the week.



# DOVER

Launched Kids Sports Ministry, Armor Sports, with camps over the summer and a full season of basketball and cheer. Hosted a Challenger Baseball banquet/dance for adults and kids with special needs, which impacted hundreds of families.

# MILLERSBURG

Partnered with Love INC, which has helped care for people of this community spiritually, emotionally, relationally, and physically. Hosted “IF” women’s conference in the spring, which many in the area attended.

# WOOSTER

Participated in the Wayne County Fair by hosting a booth and interacting with hundreds of individuals to share about NewPointe and invite them to a service. Continued remodeling and improvements of many areas on campus including Kids theater, nursery, roofing, and paint for the exterior.

*Taking Your Next Step*

# NEXT STEPS UPDATES



2022

**EVERY NUMBER** HAS A NAME

**EVERY NAME** HAS A STORY

**EVERY STORY** MATTERS TO GOD

1

CHURCH

6

CAMPUSES

**FIRST-TIME GUESTS**

560



# SALVATIONS

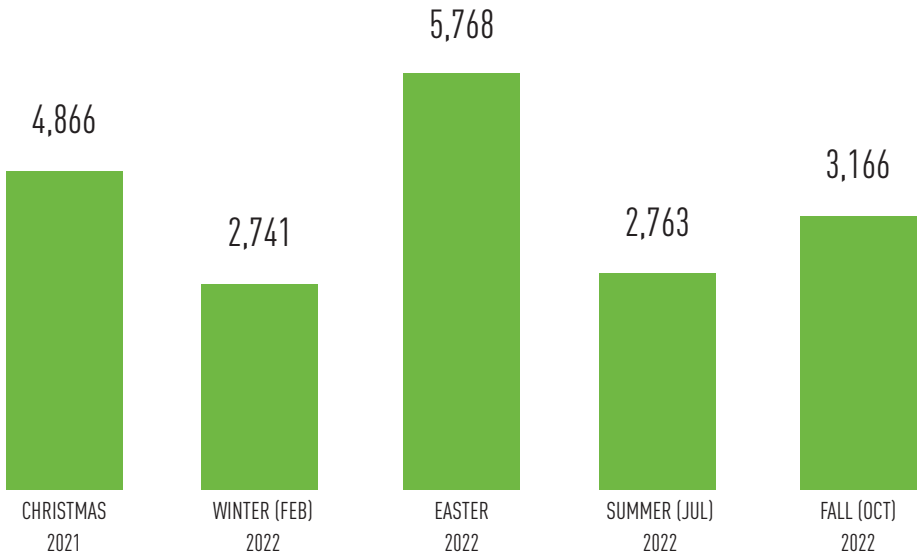
148



# VOLUNTEERS

1,431

# CHURCH ATTENDANCE



*Birth through Grade 12*

# NEXT GEN MINISTRY

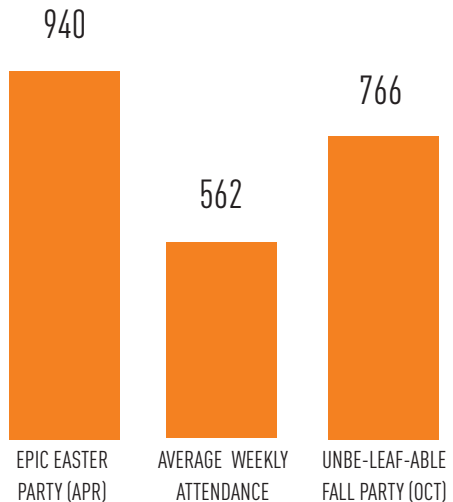
2022



## DISCOVER FOR KIDS ATTENDANCE



## KIDS





**SALVATIONS**

53



**BAPTISMS**

13



**ATTENDANCE  
FOR CAMP**

143



*Serving Others*

# MISSION PARTNERS

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We believe that God's love and concern extends to all people in every place, and we are living intentionally to build strategic relationships for the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission.

## IMPACT MIDDLE EAST

Proclaiming the grace and truth of Jesus in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and restricted access countries by planting reproducing house churches and training/equipping leaders.



## SAFE HARBOR

A faith-based, long-term, residential, therapeutic community for girls to find a place of hope and healing for child survivors of sex trafficking.



# EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE

Provides hope for communities and individuals who are recovering from disasters and trauma in the form of restoration of structures and homes.



## ARAB COMMUNITY IN TOLEDO



Assists local Arab immigrant/refugee families to reach self-sufficiency and become contributing members of the community while demonstrating the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Provides boxes filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items to children around the world, which many times may be the first gift ever received, and shares the tangible expression of God's love.



*Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19 NIV*

*Looking Ahead*

# WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

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*Primary Goal*

## 100% ENGAGEMENT

Our dream is that every person at NewPointe would acknowledge and declare Jesus is FIRST in every aspect of their lives. We are calling everyone to think differently about how we view the possessions and resources God has entrusted to our care.

*The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:15-17 NIV*

How should we respond to such an amazing reality? Do we have unsundered areas of our lives? Does our faith and trust in Jesus need to be revitalized? What are areas we MUST grow in? Have we given our very best to the One who gave us His life?

We want every person to take his/her next step in their faith and generosity by making Jesus FIRST.

*Secondary Goal*

## \$26 MILLION

As we all join to put God before all things in our lives, we are trusting Him to move through each one of us to give \$26 million over the next two years. We will invest these resources in three areas to impact the kingdom.

## **\$18M: OPERATIONAL BUDGET**

This covers the lifeblood of what we do every day and represents our annual two-year operational budget. We will invest in our ongoing ministries and trust God to continue to move and produce life change in our kids, students, and adults at NewPointe.

## **\$5.5M: POTENTIAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

### **KIDS/STUDENTS CAMPS**

We believe God is calling us to invest in the next generation, and we know that when kids and students are able to remove distractions and spend a few days hearing God's voice, EVERYTHING can change. We want to be able to offer CAMPS at a fraction of the cost. We plan to send KIDS (Grades 3-5) to camp for \$50 and STUDENTS (Grades 6-12) for \$99! We do not want cost to be a reason that a kid/student does not attend camp, and possibly experience the presence of God for the first time.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY**

We want to help children and adults with physical, mental, and developmental needs understand God's love for them and to support the family as a whole. We want to provide a safe environment that families will trust, leaving their loved ones in our care to attend weekend services.

### **EXPLORE A POTENTIAL CAMPUS LOCATION FOR CAMBRIDGE**

The Cambridge campus launched in 2019. This campus currently meets in an elementary school, which requires setup and teardown EVERY Sunday. We want to purchase a permanent campus site for this community which would allow us to provide additional resources to the people of Cambridge and surrounding areas.

### **COMMUNITY NEEDS**

We want to be able to provide for needs in the communities around each of our six campuses. Community needs arise throughout the year and we want to have the ability to meet those needs both long term and short term depending on the situation. Some of these areas could include, but are not limited to, local schools, affordable housing, outreach, and public service.

## **\$2.5M: WORLD**

We believe the local church is the hope of the world living and teaching the truth of Jesus Christ, and has the potential and power to bring about real change. We believe God's love and concern extends to all people in every place, and we are living intentionally to build strategic local, national, and global relationships.

*Engage at NewPointe*

# WAYS TO ENGAGE

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## PRAYER

Engage through prayer, asking God to reveal the areas where you need to make Him FIRST, and what to do in obedience.

## GIVING

Make a commitment to make God FIRST in your finances, and be a part of the expanded impact NewPointe is making locally and around the world.

## INFLUENCE

Encourage others to make God FIRST in every aspect of their lives, and lead by example.

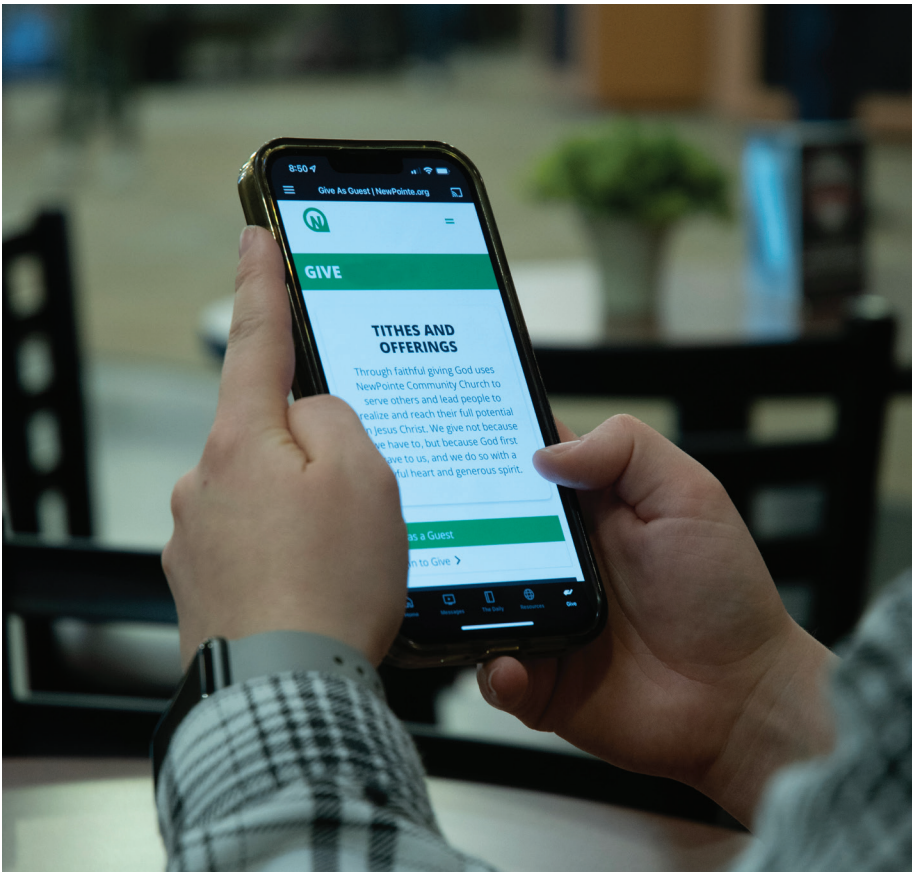
*“God is ready to take full responsibility for  
the life wholly yeilded to Him.”  
– Andrew Murray*

*Giving at NewPointe*

# GIVING CHART

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As you pray and discern how God would ask you to give during this time, use this giving chart as a discipleship tool. Let it be something that inspires and challenges you toward greater generosity for Christ's kingdom as we seek to declare He is FIRST, before all things.





<b>NUMBER OF GIFTS</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY TOTAL</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL GIFT</b>	<b>2-YEAR INDIVIDUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>2-YEAR COMBINED GIFT TOTALS</b>
2	41,667	500,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
3	20,833	250,000	500,000	1,500,000
4	10,417	125,000	250,000	1,000,000
8	8,333	100,000	200,000	1,600,000
10	6,250	75,000	150,000	1,500,000
12	4,167	50,000	100,000	1,200,000
14	3,125	37,500	75,000	1,050,000
30	2,083	25,000	50,000	1,500,000
55	1,458	17,500	35,000	1,925,000
100	1,042	12,500	25,000	2,500,000
125	833	10,000	20,000	2,500,000
145	625	7,500	15,000	2,175,000
175	417	5,000	10,000	1,750,000
200	313	3,750	7,500	1,500,000
225	208	2,500	5,000	1,125,000
310	104	1,250	2,500	775,000
MANY	50	600	1,200	400,000
<b>1,418</b>				<b>26,000,000</b>

# WEEK # 1

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## JESUS FIRST

*For this reason we have not stopped praying for you since the day we heard about you. We ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through every kind of spiritual wisdom and insight. We ask this so that you will live the kind of lives that prove you belong to the Lord. Then you will want to please him in every way as you grow in producing every kind of good work by this knowledge about God. Colossians 1:9-10 GW*

## REASONS TO PUT JESUS FIRST

- \_\_\_\_\_ the Father

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. Colossians 1:15-16 NKJV*

- \_\_\_\_\_ the future

*He Himself existed and is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. [His is the controlling, cohesive force of the universe.] He is also the head [the life-source and leader] of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will occupy the first place [He will stand supreme and be preeminent] in everything. Colossians 1:17-18 AMP*

- \_\_\_\_\_ the lost

*Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel.* Colossians 1:21-23 NIV

*He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.*

Colossians 1:18 NASB

## GIVE JESUS THE FIRST

- \_\_\_\_\_ of the day

*Each morning I will look to you in heaven and lay my requests before you, praying earnestly.* Psalm 5:3 TLB

- \_\_\_\_\_ of every week

*Now on the first day of the week, the disciples came together to break bread.*

Acts 20:7 NKJV

- \_\_\_\_\_ of my income

*Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns with wheat and barley.* Proverbs 3:9 TLB

# WEEK #2

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## IS HE WORTHY?

*But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it. Colossians 1:23 NLT*

## IT IS WORTH THE ...

• \_\_\_\_\_

*But part of my work is to suffer for you; and I am glad, for I am helping to finish up the remainder of Christ's sufferings for his body, the Church. Colossians 1:24 TLB*

• \_\_\_\_\_

*God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you. This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory. Colossians 1:25-27 NLT*

• \_\_\_\_\_  
*So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me. Colossians 1:28-29 NLT*

*I want you to know how much I struggle for you. My goal is that their hearts would be encouraged and united together in love so that they might have all the riches of assurance that come with understanding, so that they might have the knowledge of the secret plan[a] of God, namely Christ. All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in him. I'm telling you this so that no one deceives you with convincing arguments. I'm happy to see the discipline and stability of your faith in Christ. Colossians 2:1-5 CEB*

*Jesus: "I can guarantee this truth: When the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne in the world to come, you, my followers, will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who gave up homes, brothers or sisters, father, mother, children, or fields because of my name will receive a hundred times more and will inherit eternal life. However, many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first." Matthew 19:28-30 GW*

# WEEK #3

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## SEEK FIRST ...

*Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Colossians 3:1-11 NIV*

## JESUS AND HIS KINGDOM FOLLOWING JESUS ...

• \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

*So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus

*Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority. Colossians 2:8-10 NLT*



- \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

*In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. Colossians 2:11-12 NIV*

- \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus

*When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Colossians 2:13-15 NIV*

## LIFE IN HIS KINGDOM

- \_\_\_\_\_ in the Kingdom

*So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Colossians 3:5 NLT*

*But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Colossians 3:8-10 NIV*

- \_\_\_\_\_ in the Kingdom

*Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. Colossians 3:5-7 NLT*

- \_\_\_\_\_ in the Kingdom

*In the new life there is no difference between Greeks and Jews. There is no difference between those who are circumcised and those who are not circumcised. There is no difference between slaves and free people. But Christ is in all believers. And Christ is all that is important. Colossians 3:11 ICB*

# WEEK #4

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## FIRST IN RELATIONSHIPS

*Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Colossians 3:12-16 NLT*

## MY RELATIONSHIP WITH ...

• \_\_\_\_\_

*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_

*Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Colossians 3:18-19 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_

*Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.* Colossians 3:20-21 NIV

• \_\_\_\_\_

*Servants, obey your earthly masters in everything you do. Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. Serve them sincerely because of your reverent fear of the Lord. Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ. But if you do what is wrong, you will be paid back for the wrong you have done. For God has no favorites.*

Colossians 3:21-25 NLT

# WEEK #5

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## FIRST THINGS FIRST

• \_\_\_\_\_

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_ (4:2)

*And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Colossians 4:3-4 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_

*Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:5-6 NIV*

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