

THE INDWELLING WORD.

INTRO:

- A. Read Col. 3:16-17.**
- B. Regarding the text:**
 - 1. The word is to indwell the Christian so as to accomplish God's purpose.
 - 2. It has instructed men; guided in man's darkest hours.
 - 3. **John 1:1-4** -- The word has come. It is the passageway into an eternity with God.
- C. In this text, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly."**

DISCUSSION: FROM THIS PASSAGE WE OBSERVE...

I. "LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY" (16).

- A. "Let" = This word speaks of my responsibility.**
- B. The "word of Christ" = the entire body of truth (John 17:17).**
 - 1. It is the "gospel" (Good News!)
 - 1) Word of truth, the gospel: **Eph 1:13.**
 - 2) **Col 1:5.**
 - 2. It is the inspired word of God (**2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 14:24**).
- C. "Dwell" A constant habitation of the mind.**
 - 1. **1 John 2:14.**
 - 2. **Ps. 119:11; Jer. 20:9.**
- D. "Richly" = full, deep, or complete. Abundantly (Titus 3:6).**
- E. "In your heart" = Not just in an intellectual way.**
 - 1. Not a memorized thing.
 - 2. It is to be a part of us (**Psalm 119:130**).

II. WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE INDWELLING WORD?

- A. In other words, why is it to be there?**
 - 1. To help us overcome sin. **Ps. 119:11; 119:9.**
 - 2. To grow in the proper way. **1 Pet 2:2.**
 - 3. To teach others.
 - 1) Christians teach the unbeliever (**Mark 16:15-16**).
 - 2) To restore the erring (**Gal 6:1-2**).
 - 3) Parents train their children (**Deut. 6:6-7; Eph 6:4**).
- B. The word of God has the ability to move men to action.**
 - 1. **Neh. 8:9.**
 - 2. **Acts 2:37.**

III. THE PURPOSE? THAT GOD BE GLORIFIED (16-17).

- A. We glorify Him in part by "teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (16).**
- B. In all things we should seek to glorify God.**
 - 1. **1 Cor 10:31.**
 - 2. **1 Pet 4:11.**
- C. Worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24).**
- D. Singing is one way we teach and admonish.**
- E. Everything is to be done by His authority (Vs. 17; Acts 3:6).**

IV. CONCLUSION:

- A. When His word is in our hearts, we will seek His approval above all else.**
- B. And when we walk with God --- we will glorify Him.**
- C. "Never neglect the word and it will never neglect you."**