CHRIST'S WORD AND THANKSGIVING

Colossians 3:16

We should engage Christ's words with thanksgiving

I. WELCOME THE WORD

A. THE SUBJECT: The word of Christ

- 1. Words about Christ See for example Philippians 2:5-11
- 2. Words from Christ: His teachings and expectations

B. THE COMMAND

- 1. Let it dwell > A permanent affect
- a. Giving it residence: Welcoming it with eager anticipation as a permanent resident
- b. Giving it opportunity and priority
- 2. Let it dwell richly > A powerful affect
- a. Permeating every thought, word and deed
- b. Rooted in and oozing out of you
- 3. Let it dwell richly within you > A personal affect

II. SHARE THE WORD

A. HELPFULLY: Teaching and admonishing

- 1. Teaching: Positive instruction intended to provide direction for living the Christian life For example see Colossians 3:18-4:1 and 4:6-7
- 2. Admonishing: Warning others about errant beliefs and/or sinful behaviors and brothers
 - See Colossians 2:16-23, Galatians 2:11-14 and II Thessalonians 3:14-15

B. SKILLFULLY: With wisdom

- 1. The trait: Having become adept in knowing and applying God's Word
- 2. The timing: Able to discern when, where and how to interact with another

C. CORPORATELY: With one another

- 1. This is a mutual responsibility within the membership See I Thess. 5:14
- 2. Valuable interaction is needed See I Corinthians 14:26 & 31

III. SING THE WORD

A. SING BECAUSE SINGING COMMUNICATES

- 1. It is expressive: "Singing is spiritual recreation" [T. Croskery, p. 177, Pulpit Comm.]
- 2. It is memorable: Music makes truths more memorable

B. SING WITH A VARIETY OF SONGS

- 1. Psalms: Old Testament truths especially focused on God
- 2. Hymns: New Testament truths indicating newer elements of truth not previously revealed
- 3. Spiritual songs: Especially oriented toward spiritual matters and not just the praise of the Godhead

C. SING WITH AN ATTITUDE OF THANKSGIVING

- With thankfulness in your hearts

D. SING FOR AN AUDIENCE OF ONE!

- To God

CONCLUSION:

We should welcome, share and sing Christ's words ...

- Being thankful we can have it dwelling in us
- Being grateful we can freely share it with others
- Being joyful in its musical expressions