Colossians 3.16-17 Gratitude in the Everyday (Thanksgiving Eve 2016): Grateful for Everyday Worship Jonathan M. Romig <u>CornerstoneWestford.com</u>

Website: In Colossians 3:16-17, Paul teaches us to worship God by reading and studying the Bible, by worshiping through music and songs, and by our everyday as we do everything unto Jesus Christ. Listen to learn more.

Introduction: (S1)

- 1. Welcome to Cornerstone—My name is Jonathan Romig and I'm the Pastor here.
- 2. I hope you'll enjoy this evening of worship and get a little taste of who we are as a church.
- 3. We just wrapped up a sermon series that taught us God cares about every aspect of our lives.
- 4. He wants to use how we live and what we do everyday to further his presence and message in this world.
- 5. Because God can use our everyday to serve him, we can use our every day to thank him.
- 6. How do we thank God? We thank God by worshipping Him.

(So how do we do that? How do we worship?)

I. We worship God through studying the Bible. (Col 3:16a) (S2)

Colossians 3:16a Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. (NIV[®])

- A. We worship God through studying the Bible.
 - 1. The Bible calls itself the "word of God" (Hebrews 4:12).
 - 2. If we want to get to know someone, we listen to them when they're speaking, right?
 - 3. I listened to Monica when were dating and I try to love her still by listening today.
 - 4. When we listen to God's words and reflect on them, this is an act of love (free Bible in back).
 - 5. Ultimately, all the words point to "the message of Christ."
 - 6. In fact, the Bible calls Jesus the Word of God (John 1:1, 14).

(We worship God through studying the Bible—through studying Jesus.)

II. We worship God through song and music. (Col 3:16b) (83)

Colossians 3:16b Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom <u>through psalms</u>, <u>hymns</u>, <u>and songs from the Spirit</u>, <u>singing to God with gratitude in your</u> <u>hearts</u>. (NIV[®])

- A. We worship God through song and music.
 - 1. The early Christians used old music and new music to sing God's praises.
 - 2. "Psalms" were Old Testament writings written between 400 to a thousand years prior.
 - 3. "Hymns" were contemporary Christians songs about Jesus.
 - 4. "Songs from the Spirit" were spur-of-the moment praise tunes.
 - 5. The author of Colossians, Paul, is encouraging them to worship God in different ways (tonight).

(We worship God through studying the Bible and through song and music.) (But can we only worship God through only religious activities?)

III. We worship God through the everyday. (Col 3:17) (S4)

Colossians 3:17 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. (NIV[®])

- A. We worship God through the everyday.
 - 1. Paul says "whatever! you! do!" do it all in Jesus' name.
 - 2. This means I can use my everyday activities, chores, work and family time to worship God.
 - 3. When I sit in my office, walk the dog, shop for groceries, read to my child, I can worship Jesus.
 - 4. When we model God's character, make good work, or share the gospel, that's worship!
 - 5. At Cornerstone, we memorize a foundation verse each series (join me in reading ours). (85)

1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (NIV®)

- 6. I encourage you to think of reading your Bible and singing as ways to worship God.
- 7. But also think of your everyday life, Monday thru Sunday, as an opportunity to worship God.
- 8. We can worship God at church, at work, or home—worship God everyday. (S6)

(The only way we can do this is "in the name of the Lord Jesus.) (You have to have a relationship with Jesus before you can truly worship him.) (Confess your sins and believe in Jesus and he'll use your everyday for his good plan.)

Conclusion:

- 1. Denzel Washington is the star of movies like Glory and Remember the Titans.
- 2. He's also a Christian who recently said this about thanking God everyday.

Give thanks for blessings every day. Every day. Embrace gratitude. Encourage others. It is impossible to be grateful and hateful at the same time. I pray that you put your slippers way under your bed at night, so that when you wake in the morning you have to start on your knees to find them. And while you're down there, say "thank you."¹

Big Idea: Worship God everyday.

¹ Quote found via <u>PreachingToday.com</u>. Available at: <u>http://www.christianpost.com/news/denzel-washington-to-dillard-university-put-god-first-149754/</u> Jeannie Law, Christian Post Reporter. "Denzel Washington: God Has 'Faith in Me'