

Guest Speaker, Rob Hopper
October 1-2, 2005
Living Wholeheartedly
Colossians 4:15-18

Rob Hopper spoke about leaning into life rather than leaning back. He referred us to Paul's challenge of Archippus to "see to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord." (Colossians 4:17) And, he suggested that as Archippus obeyed he was blessed. It notes in the passage that Paul's words were also to be read at Laodicea. They did not take the same challenge well, they chose to live in the middle, lukewarm and unable to receive the blessing of God. The challenge is to let go and open our arms and hands to allow everything to be God's.

1. Are you going to live a wholehearted or halfhearted life? David was called a man after God's own heart, Acts 13:22, but from our viewpoint there was good and bad in David's life. But he told his son, Solomon, these four qualities were essential to wholeheartedness:
 - Seek the Lord with your heart
 - Serve God with your whole heart
 - Trust the Lord
 - Obey the Lord

Solomon was led away from these essentials by his wives, 1Kings 11:1-4

2. What does it take to live wholeheartedly?
 - Courageous love, trust, and obedience, 1Chronicles 28:9
 - Courageous generosity, Luke 6:38

We were challenged to pray the following prayer to God in the next months: "Dear Lord, what do you want to do through me to fulfill your will for our church?"

Questions for discussion:

1. How would you describe the difference between halfhearted and wholehearted?
2. As I reflect on my present activities and life, am I truly doing the things that matter the most? How do I know this?
3. If I was to live a wholehearted life, how would that look for me?
4. What is/are the thing(s) that I seem to be clutching on to? How would I release it/them to God?