

Colossians 3:17-4:1 **Making Good Work:** Fruitfulness on the Frontline

So, what have we heard so far:

1. We are called to be freedom fighters, not by aggressive means but by living as ambassadors/representatives of Jesus through word and deed given the ministry of reconciliation to resolve differences and bring healing to this broken world
2. We are to put on clothing that Jesus has fashioned, His virtues and in His strength, living out the fruit of the Holy Spirit, Love, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Living lives of forgiveness and unity.

Submission: a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden".

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. (enlarge on this)

Every area of our lives, family interactions or in our work, whoever we encounter whether they are believers or do not they are our frontlines. And it's all about relationships with each other and all who we meet along the way.

We mustn't assume we are taking God to those outside the church, we are message bearers, but we must understand that God is a missionary God. He is already out there working in the world. We are to discover what God is doing and join in.

Wherever we find ourselves, workplaces, at home, at the school gates, school, college or Uni, connections with those around us are what is important and life changing.

Who likes Bake off or Strictly? These programmes can teach us what it means to interact with the world allowing His ingredients and dance moves to inform the world that there is another way to bake or dance. A way of life that leads to abundance to interact with the source and be transformed into His perfect likeness. To reach our identity as son and daughters realising, we are made in His image. Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour, Ecclesiastes 4:9.

How we interact matters, it's not an aggressive stance, forcing people to follow Jesus, but a passive resistance movement one that demonstrates the dance moves or what ingredients make the perfect bake because of the clothing we have put on that influences our lives, submission etc...

To reach our full potential as husbands and wives, mothers, fathers, grandparents, mentors, workers and those we employ [sub personalities]. This passage shows us richness of our frontlines, engaging with God and others is a privilege and our calling as ambassadors, freedom fighters, dancers and bakers all rolled into one. Amazing!

Questions to take us deeper

How can we submit to one another, what does submission look like in church, home or work?

How can we see the people we working for, working with, or spending time with differently? Can we see them as created, loved, longed for by God?

How does looking through God's missionary eyes change the way we see the world? (John 3:16)

How can we work in such a way that reflects the restoring work of Christ – the one who will reward us for the work we do – because the work we do expresses something of the creator we serve?