

Sunday Series

Autumn 2022

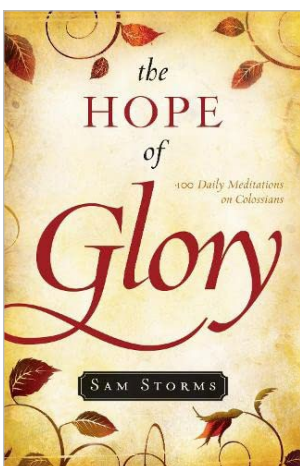
## What is the series about?

As life rolls by we all put things at the centre of our lives. For some of us it's family, friends or our career. For others it's our house or our well-being. In this series we will discover that true life is only found if Jesus takes centre stage in our lives. Join us on a Sunday at one of our three locations to follow along.

## Recommended Reading

The Hope of Glory

Sam Storms



## Listen to the audio

On the King's Norwich website at:

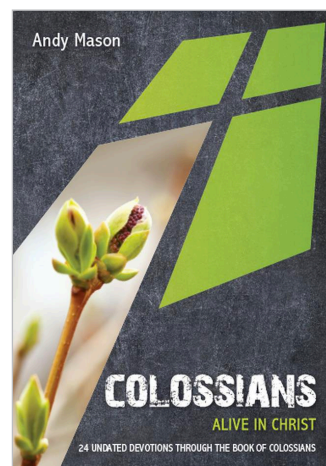
[kingsnorwich.com/on-demand](https://kingsnorwich.com/on-demand)

## LIFE Group OneStop

Find all the latest resources to run your LIFE Group: [www.kingsnorwich.com/colossians](https://www.kingsnorwich.com/colossians)

Colossians, Alive in Christ

Andy Mason



**LIFE Groups: Learning, Integration, Friendship, Everyone a witness**



## **Title: Faithful Friends**

Speaker: Jon Mullender (City Centre)

Bible Ref: Colossians 4:7-18

### **Overview**

One of our main aims as a local church is to make disciples of Jesus who '*Gather in friendship and family*'; we want Christlike friendship to be at the centre of who we are, that's why the 'F' in the LIFE of our groups is 'Friendship'. As we come to the end of Paul's letter to the Colossians he sends greetings from those that are with him; and asks for his greetings and encouragement to be passed on to others, many who are dear friends. Eleven names are mentioned; what can we learn from these people about what it means for us to be faithful friends? To be those who are becoming more like the ultimate faithful friend, who laid down His life for the benefit of us (*John 15:13*)? What are some of the Christlike characteristics that come through these faithful friends?

### **Faithful friends point us to Jesus (4:12 and 1:5-7)**

- What do we learn from Epaphras about what it means to point people to Jesus?

### **Faithful friends encourage our hearts (4:8 & 11)**

- Why is it important to cultivate a culture of encouragement in the church family? What one thing could you do this week to encourage someone?

### **Faithful friends stick with us through suffering (4:10)**

- Paul is not on his own on the prison floor, he's with his friends. Maybe share stories of friends that have walked with you through times of suffering and give thanks for them.

### **Faithful friends sometimes fail us (4:10 & 14)**

- Read *Acts 15:36-41* & *2 Timothy 4:9-11*; friendship doesn't always go smoothly, sometimes friends fall out and fail us. How can we walk in a Christlike way when this happens?

### **Faithful friends pray for us (4:12-13 and Luke 21:31-34)**

- What does it mean to wrestle in prayer & why do you think Epaphras prayed this way?

### **Faithful friends remind us of our call and provoke us to persevere (4:18)**

- As Paul reaches the end of his letter, one more name comes to mind, Archippus; why do you think Paul says this to him and how can we apply this in our lives together?