

QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-DISCUSSION

Colossians 1:1-3, Luke 5:17-26

Leaning in For Others

1. Dan shared the story of Taylor and the men in his front yard. Have you ever had someone contend like that for you? Describe your experience.
2. In Colossians 2:1-3, Paul says that he has been contending for the church in Colossae and Laodocia. Dan shared that the word for contending comes from the greek word agon – which means to labor, strive, struggle or even agonize for someone/something. Paul had much that could have kept him from contending for others (like being in prison, not knowing them). What keeps you from contending for others.
3. Paul was contending so that they would be encouraged in heart, united in community, and ultimately so that they would know Christ. Which one of those three categories are most important for you at this moment? Why?
4. What about the “fellowship of the mat” illustration impacted you the most?
5. Which one of the three groups do you find yourself in at the moment? Sitting in judgement, building a wall, or contending for others?
6. Dan talked about at least three different strategies of becoming contenders: Develop a Contending Calendar; Don't Miss the Primacy of Grace; and Your Faith May be a Catalyst for Someone's Future. Which of these three do you do well and in which do you need work?

7. For whom, is God calling you to contend?