

Theme: The work of the kingdom is not done by a few superstars, but through the Spirit empowered efforts of a Christ filled team comprised of all believers.

## I. Intro – Dan Daly and General Patton

- A. Who has heard of General George S. Patton?
- B. He was certainly a great military leader and hero
- C. Show picture of Dan Daly
- D. Who knows who this is? His name is Dan Daly
- E. One of 19 men to be awarded Medal of Honor - twice!
- F. Great American hero - but almost no one knows him
- G. Same thing happens in the church - unsung heroes

## II. The Unsung Heroes in Colossae & Rome

- A. We know very little about most of these people
  - 1. Some are mentioned only here
    - a. Nympha - hosted a church in Colossae
    - b. Not sure about Jesus who is called Justus
  - 2. Some are mentioned a number of times in the NT
    - a. Tychicus - 5x - regular companion of Paul
    - b. Aristarchus - 5x; seized in Ephesus [Acts 19:29]
    - c. But we know very little about even these!
- B. These unsung heroes are from very different backgrounds
  - 1. Included slaves (Onesimus) and wealthy (Nympha)

- 2. Included Jews and Gentiles (vv11-12)
- 3. Paul's traveling companions & people who stayed
  - a. Tychicus, Aristarchus, Mark, Luke often with Paul
  - b. Nympha and most others stayed at home

### C. These unsung heroes did very different work for God

- 1. Mark and Luke wrote Scripture!
- 2. Epaphras planted the church in Colossae
- 3. Tychicus and Aristarchus served on Paul's team
- 4. Nympha hosted a church in her home
- 5. Luke was a doctor, others had different vocations

### D. One thing in common - all served Jesus & His church

- 1. Many different callings - but all served Jesus
- 2. Many different ways - but all helped build the Church
- 3. This is how the church grows!
- 4. Few get 'headlines' - but unsung heroes build the church

## III. The Call - Complete the Work You Received

- A. Paul's command to Archippus (v17)
  - 1. Archippus had received a task from God
  - 2. The call - complete that task!
  - 3. Don't do the task of others - complete what you received
- B. The call to all of us - complete your work

## A Christ Filled Team

Colossians 4:7-18

July 22, 2012

Prayer

Hebrews 13:20-21

1. All of us have been called by God to serve Him
2. This work is different for each of us
  - a. Billy Graham and Sunday School teachers
  - b. Missionaries and stay at home moms
  - c. Pastors and business men
  - d. Crisis Pregnancy center volunteer & prayer warrior
3. We will be looking at "Calling" in the fall

### IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do we recognize the unsung heroes among us?
  1. The work of the Kingdom is done by **all** of us
  2. Do we thank God for those around us serving?
  3. Some of these people you see - some you don't
  4. Thanks to the unsung heroes - God sees your labor
- B. Do I know the work I have received in the Lord?
  1. Each of us are called by God to serve in different ways
  2. Do I know how God wants to use me?
  3. Do I know how I am to serve in the church?
  4. Do I know how I am to serve in the world?
  5. We will look at this later, but ask yourself now
- C. Prayer