If it's in the Bible there's no reason why a time shouldn't be set to study it. It's still God's word even if it looks like nothing can be learnt from it. It might just mean a little more effort on our part to find it.

First **pray** God will help you to know him more from what you read. For example; *"Heavenly Father, help me to see the importance of appreciating my brothers and sisters in Christ ministry to me. Make me slow to be critical and quick to be positive. Amen."*

Note: Eleven people not including Paul are mentioned in these final verses of the letter. Each person has had a significant and unique part to play in the proclamation of the Gospel (Col 1:27) with Paul and the establishment of the early Church. Some you may know of - others not. You may like to begin by sharing what you know of some with others in the group before you start. However, a brief account of each can be heard in the sermon on the church website.

Read Colossians Chapter 4 verses 7 to 18

Now **think** about and **find** answers to these questions:

1. In your own words go through the list of names mentioned and share with each other what Paul said each would do. Why do you think he wanted them to know that? How important is letting people know what people are doing in the life of a church?

2. Now go through the list of names again. What did Paul say about each that tells you he appreciated their friendship and ministry?

3. Think of people in your church whose ministry you appreciate. What is it about them that you appreciate? Have you told them?

4. What do we learn about Paul as a person, a brother in Christ, a ministry leader and mentor, from these final verses? Is there something of Paul's character you would like to be more like? What is it and why?

5. Finally, this is the last of the Bible Studies on Colossians. The sermon series has been on "Being Church". Think back over the letter and one or two things that stick out that you have learnt from studying the letter and share them with your group.

   Grace be with you