

TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN YOUR WALK WITH CHRIST COLOSSIANS 2:8

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WALKING IN CHRIST'S FULLNESS HEAD QUESTIONS:

- Read the following verses. **(v.9-10)** <u>"For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority."</u> **(Colossians 1:19)** <u>"For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell."</u>
- How many times do you see the phrase, "In Him"?
- Where does the fullness of deity dwell?
- How are you filled with God?
- Who has all rule and authority?
- Turning to anything other than Christ in time will lead to living life on empty, because there is simply no room for Christ in one's heart to be filled by Christ's fullness.
- Read (Jeremiah 2:13): "<u>For My people have committed two evils</u>: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."
- What are the two evils mentioned by Jeremiah? What is living water and where does it come from? What are cisterns used for and why does he refer to them as broken cisterns?

HEART QUESTIONS:

- Have you forsaken Christ's living water?
- Have you carved cisterns to fill you other than Christ? How have you seen them not hold what you expected?
- Is it possible you have filled your life with things other than Christ's fullness?
- Maybe you have not carved out broken cisterns for yourself, but is it possible you look more like a hand-dug well that at one time had great capacity to hold the living waters of God, the "fullness of God," but over time have become a well filled with the silt and sediment of this world, with little or no capacity for the fullness of Christ in your life?
- Do either of the descriptions mentioned by Jeremiah look like your life?
- If either one of these descriptions resemble you, **nothing will fill you or satisfy you in this world other than Jesus.** It will always lead to life on empty and in quiet desperation. Why? **Because the world's system takes life, it never gives life!**

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HEART QUESTIONS CONTINUED:

- Read (1 John 2:15-17) "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."
- What is the will of God? (Eph. 3:14-21)

How d	lo you know if you are walking in the fullness of Christ?
1.	You Will Look Like Christ. Read (Colossians 3:1-4; 2 Peter 1:3-4) and write down what you see to help your life look more like Christ.

2. You Will Walk in the Fullness of Christ. Read (Galatians 5:16-25). What does walking in Christ fullness look like according to this verse?

If the Holy Spirit was removed from your life, would your walk with Christ look any different? Why or why not? Does that concern you?

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FINDING YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST (V.V.11-12) HEAD QUESTIONS:

- Just as there are things that want to take you captive, there are many things that want to shape your identity. This is one of Satan's greatest attacks on humanity. Satan wants to destroy or distort any image of God in your life. (Gen. 1:26) "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion."
- What does God mean by the phrase, "Let Us"? Whose image is man made in the likeness of? How are we made in God's likeness?
- Christ came to restore your identity with God. (Isaiah 53:6) "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."
- Why do you think Isaiah described us like sheep? How have we gone astray? What does Isaiah mean by, "And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all"?
- Read **(2 Cor. 5:17)** What happens to someone "in Christ?" Our identity is in Christ through our new birth. What we call being born again. This is vividly seen through the picture of circumcision.
- Read **(Colossians 2:11)** "In Him also you were circumcised." How does circumcision identity us with Christ? Is circumcision an inward identification with Christ or outward identification?

HEAD QUESTIONS CONTINUED:

- Read **(Colossians 2:12)** Is baptism an outward identification with Christ or an inward identification with Christ? What does being "buried with Christ "and "raised with Christ" accomplish? Who does the raising?
- What comes first in **(v.v.11-12)**: A new birth or baptism? Why is this important to understand?
- The apostle Paul ends this wonderful section of scripture with these truths full of encouragement. (v.13-14) "And you, who were dead in your trespasses and uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross."
- What caused us to be spiritually dead?
- How did God make us alive?
- What did he do with our record of sin? Why does he call it a debt?

HEART QUESTIONS:

- How has having your heart circumcised by God changed your life?
- Did your baptism follow putting your faith and belief in Christ? Do you need to correct the order of your baptism?
- Thought for today: "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

HAND QUESTIONS:

Action Steps: List three things I can begin today that will help me to live this out.
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What does God want me to know?