

Sermon Discussion Questions

The Substance Belongs to Christ – Grant Braaten
Sermon Text: Colossians 2:1-23

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members. Pray that we will strive to see Jesus as who He says He is and not who we think he is.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week, on the first Sunday of Advent, Pastor Grant Braaten's message urges us to get back to the basics of our faith. The substance of the gospel and of our faith is found solely in Jesus Christ. Let's dive into Grant's message this week from Colossians chapter two and discover **The Substance Belongs to Christ**.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week, we were challenged to practice self-control and to remind ourselves to trust in God's plan, rest in Him and enjoy what he has blessed you with. How did that go while trying to practice self-control?

2. What is something that stuck with you this week from what Grant shared this week?

3. Pastor Grant talked about Gnosticism and how it has been around forever. It is the idea that salvation comes from discovering and fostering of secret inner knowledge.

Why do you think Gnosticism is still so prevalent today? Share some ways that you see Gnosticism in today's culture or church.

4. Why do you feel that enneagrams are so popular and are so appealing to so many? Have you ever seen first-hand the negative effect that they can have?

5. In Colossians 2:16-17, Paul reminds us that no one should pass judgment on someone else for food, drink, festival, new moon or a Sabbath. That those things are just a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. If you could teach a class on one thing, what would you teach?

2. Would you rather be the funniest person in the room, or the smartest? Why?

3. If you could bring back one fashion trend, what would it be?

Are there areas in your life where you have become so focused on the legalism of things, the shadow, and you've taken your eyes off the substance, who is Christ?

APPLICATION

Grant challenged us to get back to the basics and really know the Bible and who God is, that way we can easily discern heresy when we come across it. What can you do this week to get back to the basics and really lean in and learn about who Christ is?

COMING UP

To join a small group, sign up at <https://nwckc.com> or at one of the weekend services. Study materials are available to download on the church website or on the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page.

A Turning Point – Bring new toys, underwear, and canned goods to church by 11 December
Christmas Eve Services, 23 December 6pm, 24 December 4 and 6 pm, Oak Park HS

FINAL THOUGHT

**The basics of faith have become so foreign to the church
that when they are taught, they become revolutionary.**