

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What was the most significant thing you learned from the sermon or something in the sermon you didn't quite understand?

INTRO

What's something you fought for in life that was absolutely worth the effort?
What's a nickname or label someone gave you growing up that stuck?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 2:1-5

What does Paul desire for the believers in and around Colossae?
How and why would an awareness of Paul's suffering encourage believers?
How does unity in love relate to understanding Christ?
How does knowing Christ better relate to "full assurance" or "complete understanding"?
What does Paul mean when he writes, "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" are in Christ?
How is wisdom and knowledge "hidden" in Christ? (Proverbs 9:10a)
What was Paul concerned about for the believers?
What did Paul say will protect them from these dangers?
What does it then mean when we are tempted to be more interested or dependent on something other than Jesus?
Paul mentions two things that he rejoices to see in the Colossians. Why is discipline so important?
Why would Paul be concerned that the believers could be deceived if they are firm in their faith?

TAKEAWAYS

CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

Matthew 6:19-21; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Colossians 1:23; Jude 3-4

Are you chasing treasure that isn't Christ?
In what areas of your life or with what people are you most tempted to retreat instead of contend?
Are you disciplined in your faith, or just busy with "Christian" activities?
Is there an area in your life where you are guarding the truth?

KNOW WHAT IS TRUE OF YOU IN CHRIST

Psalms 103; John 5:24; 15:5; 17:23; Romans 5:1; 6:3-4; 8:1, 11, 15-17, 38-39; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 4:6-7; Ephesians 1:3-7; 2:6-10; 4:22-24; 5:8; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 1:13-14, 21-23, 27; 2:10-14; 3:3, 12, 17; 1 Peter 2:9; Hebrews 12:22-24; 1 John 3:1-2; Titus 3:5-7

Is there a part of your Christian identity you often forget?
When you sin or fail, do you run toward Christ, or do you hide? What should you do?
When condemnation creeps in, of what should you remind yourself?
Look up the lyrics to the hymn "Before the Throne of God Above" and pay close attention to the second verse.
Does a former label or story about who you used to be continue to shape you more than the identity God has given you in Christ? What does Romans 8:1 have to say about this?