



COLOSSIANS

Colossians 1:24 - 2:5 // Rooted in Christ

By Andrew Farhat

Getting Started

- *Larger LIFE Groups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- Parents: why do you want your children to be mature?

Scripture Study (30 Min)

- Read Colossians 1:24-2:5
- The big idea is that Paul, as a minister of the Gospel (1:25), is laboring and toiling (1:29) to present everyone mature in Christ (1:28). That is the goal of a pastor's ministry: to go and make disciples (Matt. 28:18-20). Paul reveals the means by which one becomes mature: total dependence upon Christ *who lives inside of the believer* (1:27)! Total dependence upon Christ for truth (2:3-4) is the means towards growth.
- According to Scripture, a pastor or elder must have a lifestyle that others can imitate (Hebrews 13:7) and they will be held accountable for their teaching and oversight of the flock (Hebrews 13:17). What are some ways you can support your pastor or elders?
- What is the difference between religion by self-effort and the power of Christ working in you?
- Where is motivation based in religion by self-effort?

- Where is motivation based as a result of the Gospel?
- What are the results of religion by self-effort?
- What are the results of salvation by faith in Christ?
- Scripture teaches that after one is saved by faith in Christ there are stages of spiritual growth. There are infants (*one who is new to faith in Jesus*, 1 Cor. 3:1; 1 Peter 2:2), children (*one that is growing in knowledge of Scripture and connecting to God and community of believers*, 1 Cor. 14:20; Heb. 5:13-14), mature believers (*one characterized by service, God-centeredness, other-centeredness*, Eph. 4:13, Phil. 3:15, Col. 1:28, Col. 4:12), and spiritual parents (*characterized by intentionality, reproducibility, strategy*, 1 Cor. 4:15).
- Reflect upon where the Lord has taken you in your spiritual journey and where you think you are going.

Group Prayer (15 Min)

Trios (20 Min)

Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
 - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
 - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you've encountered it in this week's Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
 - What's an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? How can we encourage you?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
 - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How's your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you're building and spiritual conversations you're having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
 - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:

 - What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
 - How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?