



COLOSSIANS SERIES PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL PLAN

WEEK 5

Each week through this series, we are including five personal devotional readings followed by a couple of questions you can think on through the day. Monday is a day to set aside to read through the book of Colossians. The rest of the week we will look at two or three verses to contemplate more deeply and personally. We hope you enjoy digging into this important book over the next 10 weeks, and we pray God will use these short devotional questions to give you deeper insight and that through it, the gospel will be “bearing fruit and increasing” in you daily (Colossians 1:6).

Monday Reading: Read through Colossians in one sitting.

Devotional Question—What is something new that you picked up from your reading of Colossians this week? How can that thought be an encouragement throughout your day?

Tuesday Devotional: Read Colossians 2:11-12

Devotional Questions—Why is the metaphor of circumcision appropriate in describing Christ’s work in us?

How have you seen the old, fleshly things in your life exchanged for new, life-giving things in Christ?

Wednesday Devotional: Read Colossians 2:13-15

Devotional Questions—Does the awareness of Christ’s forgiveness give you the desire to live a life that honors Him? How-so?

Does Christ’s payment for your sin create in you a desire to obey Him? Are you obeying Him?

Thursday Devotional: Read Colossians 2:16-19

Devotional Questions—Have you ever felt like you just aren’t good enough to be used by God?

How can a deep awareness of Christ’s accomplishments free us from the feelings that we aren’t good enough?

Friday Devotional: Read Colossians 2:20-23

Devotional Questions—What are some man-made rules we sometimes follow to make ourselves feel religious?

God wants us to live godly lives—we know that. What is the difference between pursuing good works in order to earn God’s favor and pursuing works because you already have God’s favor through the work of Jesus?





COLOSSIANS 2:6-2:15

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FROM 10/10/21

SERMON SUMMARY

Paul wants the Christians in Colossae to have a deep understanding of who Jesus is and what he has done for them through the gift of salvation. He knows that there will be teachers who will attempt to derail their faith, encouraging them to submit themselves to rules and regulations and seeking to secure their place with God through human accomplishment. Paul wants these young believers to know what Jesus has done on their behalf, securing God's favor through His own life and death. With a deeper understanding of Christ's accomplishments, Paul knows these Christians will be free to live their lives with joy and thanksgiving instead of out of a need to earn God's favor themselves. In this week's passage, Paul lays out a list of Jesus' accomplishments on behalf of all Christians in order to elicit a response of joyful obedience and a life of righteous living that glorifies God.

Key Passage: Colossians 2:6-15

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW—Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone. *The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.*

What is one way God is challenging you to trust Him this week?

What are some ways you have experienced God answering your prayers lately?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW—Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

According to verses 6-7, what kind of response does Paul expect to see from those who have received salvation through faith in Christ? What does Paul mean by "walk in Him?"

How can we be motivated to live from a heart of thanksgiving rather than a sense of duty?

What is the "human tradition" Paul speaks of? How does "religion" look when it is approached from "human tradition" rather than from an understanding of what Jesus has done?

What does Paul say about Jesus in verse 9? Talk about the significance of this truth.

Make a list of all the things Paul says are true about those who are in Christ (vs. 10-15).

Paul says "you have been filled in Him." How is Christ sufficient for you?

What does circumcision represent in this passage? How has Christ accomplished that for us?

Baptism, for Paul, represents death to the old self and resurrection to new life. What is different about your life because of Jesus?

Paul tells us that our debt has been paid by Jesus. Why do we try, still, to earn God's favor?

How does Jesus' victory over "rulers and authorities" encourage you in the face of temptation and accusation?

GO—Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

When we look at the work of Christ on the cross, what impacts you the most?

How have you been led astray by a need to somehow secure your own salvation in some way?

How should a full understanding of Christ's work shape how you share your faith?

