

Sermon-Based Questions
March 10, 2019
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Simply Jesus: The Book of Colossians
Built On His Foundation
Colossians 2:6-15

Introduction: (Choose 1)

1. In what ways, if any, do you notice that you are separating your faith from the rest of the areas of your life?
2. As Pastor Dave mentioned, the strength of a building is based on its foundation. What are some things people, Christians or non-Christians, build their lives upon?

Reading: (Scripture reference)

Read Colossians 2:6-15

Understanding: (Choose 3- 5)

3. Read Colossians 2:8, Paul warns of “hollow and deceptive philosophy.” Pastor Dave mentioned that this philosophy is a way of thinking that is founded on human reason. Share your thoughts on why this type of philosophy is wrong?
4. Paul also describes this kind of philosophy as being based on “the elemental spiritual forces of this world.”
 - What does he mean by that?
 - Name some examples of this type of deception.
5. Pastor Dave mentioned some empty foundations we are tempted to build our lives upon: materialism, egotism, patriotism, hedonism, moralism, and scientism.
 - Which ones are you personally tempted by?
 - Which ones do you think your generation is deceived by the most? Why?
 - Why do think it’s so easy to become deceived and taken captive by these worldly philosophies?
6. Share your testimony, if you have one, of how you became aware of a false foundation and became free from the captivity?
7. Read Verse 9. In contrast to the hollowness of worldly philosophy, Paul says, in Christ is the fullness of the Deity.
 - Why is this fact critical to your faith?
8. Read Verses 11-12. As Paul explains, only Christ changes hearts. What ways do you see or have seen proof of Christ changing your heart?

9. Read Verses 13-14. We see Christ alone removes our guilt. How does the fact that Christ removed your sins on the cross affect your view of yourself, your relationship with Christ and with others?
10. Read verses 6-7. Based on these verses, Pastor Dave lists four things that will happen when we build our life upon Christ. We become stable, we're progressing, we're strengthened, and we overflow with gratitude.
- In what ways do you notice your life having become more stable?
 - How is your faith progressing these days?
 - Tell of a time when life was hard that you truly experienced a spiritual strengthening.
 - Are you experiencing this overflowing of thankfulness that Paul describes? Why or why not?

Application:

11. What are some practical and specific ways that could be incorporated into your life so you will continue to be built up in Christ?
12. How can you as a group, encourage each other to keep progressing in your faith?

Prayer:

Take some time to pray together. Pray that the Lord would reveal any false and hollow foundations in your life and help you become free from the captivity of them. Pray that God would give you the grace to continue to be rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith and overflowing with thankfulness.

Lectio Divina

1. **Opening Prayer:** Ask God for insight into His Word, for open hearts and minds, for hunger to know Him better, and for an attitude of learning from one another.
2. **Reading:** Have someone from your group read the passage aloud. It is best to print out a copy for each group member so they can read along, make notes, or go back as needed.
3. **Meditation:** Spend *an entire minute* in complete silence, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage quietly to yourself or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
4. **Sharing:** At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
5. **Repeat:** After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times using the same passage. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
 1. What did you hear and what seems important?
 2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
 3. What does it make you think of from your life?

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6-7

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces^[a] of this world rather than on Christ. ⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

Colossians 2:8-10

¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh^[b] was put off when you were circumcised by^[c] Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Colossians 2:11-12

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you^[d] alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Colossians 2:13-15

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:19-20