

Colossians 2:6-15

Week 5 - New Life In Christ

? Can you describe a time when you or someone you know has been forgiven for a debt they owed?
What happened?

Colossians 2:6-15 (NIV)

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.

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 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. ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by 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.

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you 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.

? Look through the passage again. How many times does Paul use the phrases “in him/Christ” or “with him/Christ”? What is the significance behind Paul using those phrases so many times?

? Verse 6 instructs us to “continue to live our lives in him,” and verse 7 tells us how to do that. What does it look like for you or your small group to be rooted, built up, and strengthened in Jesus with overflowing thankfulness?

? We often hear voices from society and culture trying to distract us (vs. 8) from how we have been built up in Christ. How have you seen these distractions in your life and in the lives of those around you?

? According to verses 9 and 10, all authority and the power of God is in Jesus, and yet it says we have been “brought to fullness.” What does it mean to be full or complete?

? In what ways are we made full, and with what are we filled?

Romans 2:29

²⁹ But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

? This verse and verse 11 in our passage are not talking about actually being ethnically Jewish, or physically being circumcised. What is the main point that Paul is trying to teach us in these verses? What is significant about these statements?

? How does it make you feel knowing that we were found guilty and yet made innocent, found condemned and then made free, through the love and suffering of Jesus?

? We read in verses 13 and 14 that we were in debt to God for our sins committed against Him. What is the image that Paul brings to mind to demonstrate how we have been forgiven?

? If you were left to try to defend yourself before God, how would you go about trying to justify your actions? Have you seen others attempt to do this?

? Even for those of us who are in Christ and made alive, what are some ways in which we forget that we are forgiven?

For Discussion And Accountability

? How do you need to let the knowledge that you are forgiven and made alive in Christ change your attitude or perspective this week?

? What is distracting you from living “rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness” (vs. 7)?