

May 4-5, 2024

Title: Colossians: Union with Christ and His Church, Pt 4: “Fullness, Forgiveness, and Freedom in Christ” – Colossians 2:6-15

Big Idea: Receive fullness, forgiveness, and freedom in Christ alone!

Read Colossians 2:6-15.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. Continue receiving FULLNESS, FORGIVENESS, and FREEDOM in Christ – Colossians 2:6-7

Read Colossians 2:6-7. If you are a Christian, what sense of lack were you experiencing in your life when you first received Christ Jesus as your Lord and Savior? How did Jesus fill up this lack?

Paul says, “as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.” What does it look like to continue as a Christian the same way you began? How did you begin? How will you continue?

What do you think it means to be ROOTED in Christ? What does it mean to be BUILT UP in Him? What does it mean to be ESTABLISHED in the faith?

Why is abounding in thanksgiving the only appropriate response?

2. Beware of receiving ANYTHING by Christ – Colossians 2:8.

Read Colossians 2:8. What does it mean for a philosophy to be “not according to Christ?”

What are some examples of philosophies that are “not according to Christ?”

Have you ever seen a seemingly healthy believer be led astray by some other philosophy? Why do you think this happened? How can we guard against it?

3. Be FILLED by the FULLNESS of Christ – Colossians 2:9-10

Read Colossians 2:9-10. What does it mean that “the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily” in Christ?

What does it look like to be filled in Him?

4. Receive FULLNESS through UNION with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection – Colossians 2:11-12

Read Colossians 2:11-12. “The circumcision of Christ” is referring to His death on the cross. How did His death put off our “body of the flesh?” Read Romans 6:3-6 for help in answering.

Based on Colossians 2:12, how does this happen for us?

5. Receive FORGIVENESS and FREEDOM from His FULLNESS – Colossians 2:13-15

Read Colossians 2:13-14. “The uncircumcision of your flesh” reveals that Paul’s readers were Gentiles and not Jews. What was the relationship between Jews and Gentiles in the Old Testament?

Read Ephesians 3:6 and Ephesians 2:11-16. What do these passages suggest about the relationship between Jews and Gentiles within God’s plan today?

Based on Colossians 2:14, how does the cross work to provide forgiveness for Jews and Gentiles alike?

Read Colossians 2:15. How does it help you to know that Jesus has triumphed over all evil powers? What kind of freedom does this bring to us now and forever?

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - Identify what is currently lacking in your life. Is it love? Is it joy? Is it peace? Bring your lack to God and ask Him to fill it up with His fullness!
- With Others:
 - Read the book “Life Without Lack” by Dallas Willard with some friends or family to encourage each other to continue receiving fullness from Christ alone.
- On Mission:
 - Ask the Lord to use you to “fill up what is lacking” in the life of an unbeliever this week by sharing Jesus with them through your words, actions, or prayers.