



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Colossians: Rescued. Redeemed. Rooted.

Week 5 - Rooted

QUESTION 1

Please read our focus scripture for the week out loud as a group. **Colossians 2:1-8 I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. ² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. ⁵ For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. 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.** Each group member, please comment on what stands out to you.

QUESTION 2

In this question, focus specifically on verses two and three. **² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.** In these beautiful verses, Paul states his three-part goal. He wants the people in Colossae to be encouraged in heart, united in love, so that they can truly understand life in Christ. These verses highlight for us the importance of authentic Christian relationships in our understanding of the Christian faith. Take some time to discuss these verses together. Be sure to talk about what encourages your heart, where you feel most united in love, and share how someone in your group expresses their love for you. Discuss how authentic Christian relationships illustrate and bring understanding of life in Christ.

QUESTION 3

Paul is very concerned that the Colossians will be deceived. He discusses this in both verses four and eight. ⁴**I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments...** 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.** When Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians, he understood that certain common deceptions and philosophies could easily lead the Colossians astray. What do you think are some of the deceptions and deceptive philosophies that affect Christians today? In a moment of great transparency, please share how these modern-day deceptions have personally affected you.

QUESTION 4

Verses five, six, and seven contain some amazing commands. ⁵**For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.** 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.** What from these verses speak to you in your current season of life?

It may be a little hard to see, but Paul uses the analogy of a tree in verse seven. Trees have roots that absorb nutrients from the soil, and they also produce fruit as they grow stronger. This analogy reminds us that our roots should go deep to draw nourishment from God's Word, our relationships with other Christians, and the Holy Spirit. If we can draw nourishment from our roots, we will also be built up and able to bear fruit. As a group, discuss your root system—is it providing you with the nourishment you truly need to grow? Are you being built up? Talk about the fruit you are producing.

QUESTION 5

Paul presents an intriguing idea in this section of scripture. **Colossians 2:1 I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally.** The Greek word for “contend” speaks of fighting a battle or competing in the arena. Paul is basically saying I am going to battle for you, I am entering the arena to fight on your behalf. We understand that Paul was fighting a spiritual battle as he prayed daily for the Colossians and wrote this letter to help instruct them. Has anyone ever gone into the arena for you? Someone who prayed for you, walked alongside you and helped you fight life's battles? If so, share about that person with your group.

You should follow Paul's example and contend, fight for, and enter the arena for others. Who are you fighting for? Who are you praying for?