



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Colossians: Rescued. Redeemed. Rooted.

Week 6 - Fully Alive

QUESTION 1

Take a moment as a group to read aloud our scripture for the week. **Colossians 2:9-15** **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.** Please, each member of the group, share something from the scripture that stands out to you personally.

QUESTION 2

Verses 9 and 10 unveil a powerful truth. **Colossians 2:9-10** **For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,** ¹⁰ **and in Christ you have been brought to fullness...** There are two powerful things in these two verses. The first is a theme that Paul has already developed in the book of Colossians, that all the fullness of God lives in Christ. The second is about us; when we accept Christ, we are brought to fullness. We have been made spiritually complete in Christ. Completely forgiven and acceptable to God. And because the spirit lives in us, the fullness of God lives in us. It's another way of saying what Paul stated back in chapter 1. **Colossians 1:22** **But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—** What does it mean to you that you are complete in Christ? One aspect is that you are completely forgiven; it also means the fullness of God lives in you. Discuss as a group how this truth changes or should change how you see yourself.

QUESTION 3

In this section of Scripture, Paul discusses two spiritual rituals —circumcision and baptism —and explains how they should be understood. Let's focus on baptism. 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.** When we are baptized, we declare openly to the world that we have died with Christ and have been raised to live a new life in Him. Take some time as a group to talk about the significance of baptism. Discuss when you were baptized and what it meant to you. If you have accepted Christ, but have not been baptized, discuss what is holding you back.

QUESTION 4

In Questions four and five, we'll examine verses 13 and 14 in the New Living Translation. **Colossians 2:13 You were dead because of your sins, and your sinful nature had not yet been removed. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.** When Paul says you are "dead in your sins," it means you are in a state of spiritual separation from God. You're unable to receive spiritual nourishment or instruction from the Holy Spirit and are left with only vain attempts to satisfy yourself. It's a very empty way to live. Discuss for a moment the idea of being spiritually dead, separated from God.

However, when we accept Christ, **God makes us alive with Christ, for He forgives all our sins.** Now, we can walk with God, receiving spiritual nourishment, guidance, and the much-needed correction that God desires to give us. True life-giving peace and satisfaction from the Holy Spirit. What does it mean to you to be alive in Christ?

QUESTION 5

Colossians 2:14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. I want you to imagine all of your sins written down on a single document— sins in thought, word, or actions, everything wrong thing you've ever done. This verse powerfully teaches that when Jesus was nailed to the cross, all your sins were placed upon Him. **He canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.** Don't miss the beauty of this verse: when Jesus was nailed to the cross, everything that stood between us and God, including that list of your sins, was nailed to the cross. Take a moment to discuss that as a group. Please be sure to discuss what you think and also what you feel emotionally as you read these words.