

SHIFT

TURN YOUR WAYS

SERMON
STUDY

06.23.2024

Leader Corner

Proclaiming and Teaching

Colossians 1:24-2:15

Main Idea: Living as a mature follower of Christ involves warnings, encouragement, thanksgiving, joy, and hope.

Main Practice: Stay true to who Christ is and what He taught.

Main Teaching: Colossians 1:24-2:15

Refocus with Praise

Read, sing or meditate on the first and fourth verses of the song, *In Christ Alone*.

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

with Prayer

Have someone pray for your group as you study this passage and for your discussion during this gathering.

with

Principle

1. Have a group member read Colossians 1:24-2:15 aloud.
2. Discuss any questions or insights that this week's sermon offered.
3. Who is the smartest, wisest person who ever lived? Paul gives us the answer in chapter 2, verse 3 and Paul tells us why this is important to know in chapter 2, verses 2+4. Where else in Scripture do we learn about Christ's wisdom/knowledge? See and discuss John 1:1-3, 1:14, Romans 11:33-36, 1 John 5:20.
4. Paul tells the Colossians that the person they believe in is the fulfillment of prophecy, (the Christ) the Savior, (Jesus) and Ruler (Lord). Don't drift away from any of these aspects of Jesus. Keep these foundational truths in order to grow and mature as Christ followers. What should be our responses be to these descriptions of who Jesus is?
5. In verses 2:8-10, Paul tells us not to be carried away by worldly philosophies (ideas about knowledge, truth, reality, existence, joy and morality). Paul is saying that Christ is not only the Savior of our souls, but the most knowledgeable and truthful teacher about all of life. Where else do we see the all-sufficiency of being "in Christ alone"? Helpful scriptures: Psalm 16:11, John 14:6, Matthew 7:13, 13:44-45, 2 Peter 1:3-4.
6. Paul points in this Scripture to the future reality of our eternal life. By faith in Christ, who overcame the debt of our sin, we have already been united in Him in his burial and resurrection. Where else do we read about this reality that is future, but that is present in believers already? See John 6:37-40, 11:25-26, Romans 6:3-5, 8:10-11, 1 Corinthians 15:21-22.

with

Practice

Encourage each other always to rely on the truth of Scripture to mature in Christian living and the Christ following life.

Take some time and break into groups of 2-3. Prayerfully speak encouraging words to one another by answering the following question. What spiritual gifts or growth do you see in each other?

For Further Focus

Most commentators believe that the "mystery," Paul refers to in chapter 1, verse 26 is the mystery of bringing Gentiles into God's Kingdom. Salvation is now available, by faith, to all...not just Jews and not by works of the law. This "mystery" is revealed in Christ. Look at the following Scriptures as you ponder this: Isaiah 49:6, Ephesians 3:4-6, Galatians 2:15-16, 3:24-29.