

Home Group Leader's Notes for the "Rooted" series

Rooted #3

Week of September 23, 2018

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is a core passage in the book of Colossians. Here, Paul dives into the problem of people attempting to take people "captive" and the solution of continuing to "live in Christ Jesus as Lord." People were putting unbiblical expectations on people – far outside of the good news and what Jesus has done for us, far outside of what it means to walk with and live in Christ Jesus. (More on this next week.) In addressing the problem, Paul makes three critical points: (1) You have been rooted in Jesus, (2) you are being built up and established in your faith, and (3) your response is thankfulness (i.e. not trying to earn it). Jesus is God, His work is complete – He gave you fullness (You are "in Christ" - He dwells in you and now you are complete Christ). Since Jesus is this and did this, you are solid/established/complete in your covenant with God (circumcised by God (OT covenant) and baptized in Christ (NT covenant)). It is done – no need to add to this. All debts of sin are cancelled and blotted out - you are forgiven; you were dead and He made you alive. Jesus won!

SHARE IT

What are some things your parents warned you about?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This question should be fun – try not to get into the heavy stuff. (e.g. I was warned to stay away from bad kids.) The purpose of this "Share it" is to lead into Paul's warning in this passage.

STUDY THE BIBLE

Paul (the writer) wrote to people being told that they needed to add something to have a "full" or "complete" experience. Read through Colossians 2:6-15.

How did Paul address this confusion? What did he indicate was essential? Why?

NOTES TO LEADERS: I have answered this in the introduction.

What is the outcome of receiving "Christ Jesus as Lord?" (2:6-7)

NOTES TO LEADERS: In this passage, Paul indicates several outcomes:

- He roots and builds us
- Thankfulness
- He makes us complete/ gives us fullness
- He makes us right with God (circumcision, baptism are symbols of this)
- He makes us alive (we were dead)
- He forgives all sins

What challenges were a concern to Paul? (2:8)

NOTES TO LEADERS: The passage for next week gives the specifics. This passage (2:8) indicates that people were trying to take people captive into a new worldview. This would lead people away from the gospel of being complete in Christ.

What about Christ makes being “in Christ” all they need? (2:9-15)

NOTES TO LEADERS: Christ has all the fullness of deity in Him, so if we are “in Christ” and have Him indwell us, we don’t need anyone or anything else – we are complete.

What has Christ done for those “in Christ?” (Please list)

NOTES TO LEADERS: This is similar to the question above. (Sorry for the redundancy.)

DISCUSS TOGETHER

We live in the age of ‘more.’ How does this affect our lives?

NOTES TO LEADERS: We often feel like . . .

- I’m missing out on something
- Unfulfilled or incomplete
- Discontent with who I am or what I have
- Striving to get more money, education, position, experiences, vacation, etc.

What is at the crux of Paul’s assertion that having Christ means having “fullness?”

NOTES TO LEADERS: If we know and believe this, then we can cease trying to earn our salvation or earn God’s favor through works, we enter into the joy of contentment through being “in Christ,” we begin the eternal joy of worshiping Christ Jesus. We understand that we have the treasure that we have yearned for.

What truth from this passage is something that you want to share with others? Is it a challenge to share? Why?

NOTES TO LEADERS: This truth, that we are complete in Christ, that we are forgiven and indwelt by God, should be something that we long to share with others. However, since we are in a confused and complex culture, we often feel “challenged” in how or when to share. This discussion could be helpful for all.

Love to you all,
Steve