



Each Day We Become More or Less Like Jesus

August 11 / 12

Colossians 2:1-15

As we move through Paul’s letter to the young church at Colosse, we begin to get an idea of why he felt he needed to write to them in the first place. It seems that there were people influencing the church with teaching that basically said Jesus is not enough. What is needed, is Jesus, plus some kind of special knowledge. Or Jesus, plus rule keeping. Paul wrote to affirm that Jesus is enough. When you have Jesus, you have everything you need.

Sermon Notes:

Welcome

- Introduce anyone new to the group.
- Icebreaker: What was your growing up like – were your parents pretty strict or were they more permissive. What was one of the most important rules of your home?

Opening Prayer

Ask God to prepare your hearts for what he wants to teach you through this week’s passage. Pray that each person would listen and hear from God and follow through in loving obedience.

Vision

Coming up, we are offering several opportunities to be trained in Discovery Bible Study. This is a simple and reproducible method of studying the Bible with others (in fact, this guide is based on DBS). Why not encourage a person or two in your group to sign up for one of these trainings (visit cccgo.com/groups)? If you’re using DBS consistently in your group, have you trained others to lead the discussion. If not, start now. Ask someone to lead next week’s discussion. Meet with them sometime this week to talk through how it works. Multiply yourself in someone else!

Look Back

- How did you experience God this week?
- Did you follow through on a step of obedience from the group’s last meeting?
- Did you share your story or God’s story with someone?



Look Up

- As you read through this week's passage, pay attention to all the ways that Paul communicates that Jesus is enough. It's significant that he refers to Jesus as the "mystery of God" in verse two. That word doesn't meet a puzzle to be solved by a Sherlock Holmes. Instead, it refers to something that we could never figure out on our own unless it were revealed to us. Christ, he says, is what God has made known to us and in him we find everything we need.
- Read Colossians 2:1-15 several times as a group. When you read it the second time, as each person to write down one or two words or phrases that especially stand out.

What do you like or not like from this passage? What is challenging or difficult to understand?

- What does Paul mean when he says that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Jesus (verse 3)? How have you experienced that?
- What do you think it means to be rooted and built up in Jesus? What other kinds of things might we be tempted to root our lives in? What's the connection between growth and thankfulness (verse 7)?

- What sort of "hollow and deceptive" philosophy typically leads people away from Jesus today? Have you experienced being captivated by a belief system – only to find it deceptive and hollow?

What does this passage say about God? What does it say about us?

- This passage speaks of many things that Christ is greater than. What are some of those things? In what ways is Christ greater?
- What do you think it looks like to "walk in him" from verse 6? The idea of "walking" is connected with our daily conduct, how we live our lives moment by moment.

Look Ahead

- Take a few minutes for silent prayer before Looking Ahead.
- How can you obey this passage? With whom can you share this passage?
- Be specific and pray for one another, that God would open the right doors for each conversation to take place.