

Faith: Something You Never Outgrow



As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6-7

Introduction

This study reminds us of the necessity of living by faith, focusing and relying on the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

For some believers, beginning in faith is a simple process, if not easy. However, our humanity often tries to please God with other things. Many who begin the pilgrimage of faith become involved in the attempt to win God's favor through their "good works."

Passage

Colossians 2:6-19

Questions to consider

1. According to v. 6-7, what phrases characterize continued growth in Christ? Why are they crucial to the Christian life?

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2. What does it mean to be rooted in Christ?

3. What warning did Paul give the Colossians? (v.8)

4. What does v. 10 suggest that Christ has done for believers?

5. Where do we often look for fulfillment outside of Christ? Where does our culture as a whole look?

6. What 2 religious practices does Paul refer to in v. 11-12?

7. According to v.13-15, what has God done for believers in Christ?

8. Why do you think Christians so often lapse back into legalism after coming to Christ by faith? Why is legalism attractive to the “natural man”? What are some examples of legalism?

Life Application

◇ In what areas are you personally tempted to lean toward legalism rather than live by faith? As you evaluate your growth in Christ, is it primarily doing more than “religious things” or nurturing your faith and being obedient to Christ? What evidence of a growing/healthy faith exists in your life?

◇ Which of the following areas are the greatest challenge to live by faith? How can you change them this month?

◇ Academics

◇ Relationships

◇ Health

◇ Finances

◇ The future

◇ Your self-sufficiency

◇ Think of your faith as a muscle strengthened by exercise. Pick from the list below 2 or 3 ways you would be willing to exercise your faith this month.

◇ Seek the counsel of a spiritually mature person concerning keys to growth and health.

◇ Find a place of service where you can refine and exercise your spiritual gifts.

◇ Spend 2 hours in prayer and Scripture reading & recording insights.

◇ Become acquainted with the life of Jesus by focusing on a Gospel and journal your insights.

◇ Begin or end each day with a time of quiet reflection, asking God to sensitize you to the challenges and opportunities of the day.

Adapted from a study created by the Baptist General Convention of Texas.