

Youth Church: Colossians 2:4-15

This week we are back in Colossians, first of all I would love you to have a think over the questions below!

Task one:

1) When you think of the word “full” or “filled,” what comes to mind?

2) Does the “busy-ness” of your life ever leave you feeling full or empty? Does anything you are involved in ever get in the way of your relationship with Christ?

3) What is “big” in your life? What do you often talk about? What do you most often share on social media?

4) Where do you seek security? What feels like “true” knowledge?



TASK 2:

Read Colossians 2:4-15 then answer the questions below!

What is the key verse?

What are the repeated words?

What surprises you?

What do you learn about the Colossian church?

What is Paul's main point in this passage?

How does this passage apply to your life as a Christian?

TASK 3: REFLECTION

Have a think...

How does finding our fullness in Christ help us fight against the worldly things that come our way?

What does it look like to fully embrace living a Christ-filled life?

What are some practical examples of how a person filled with Christ would act, versus a person who was filled with things of this world?

Think of the non-Christians in your life, what things tend to be “big” in their hearts and minds? How can you help them to see that Christ is more loving, more secure, more true?

SOME THOUGHTS

In our culture today everything is 'bigger and better' or 'the best of the best,' all around us people are striving for more or to have the 'best' clothes or technology hoping that it will fulfil and sustain them. In our passage today Paul has just finished the 'introduction' of his letter so to speak and is moving on to the heart of the matter. Paul is re-telling the Gospel to the Colossians and warning them about false teachings. It is interesting that the world around us attempts to give answers on how to fulfil and sustain us but as Christians we know that the only way this is possible is through Jesus. There are times when we can accidentally become numb to what Jesus did for us, we hear the same story about Jesus dying for us on the cross and rising again, but do we ever stop to think about what this means? Do we think of the sacrifice He made? In verse 6 Paul is reminding the Colossians and us today to 'walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith... abounding in thanksgiving.' We should not only be thankful but 'abounding in thanksgiving' which means large amounts. Paul's desire in this passage was to explain to the Colossians that Christ had set them free from sin and given them a full and complete life in Christ. They had no need for additional teaching or stuff for completeness.

There are a few confusing verses in this passage, firstly, verse 9 talks about “fullness of the Deity” lives in Christ's body and this put simply means that Jesus Christ was fully God. Verse 10 explains, that whilst He was 100% human, He was also 100% God.. being given fullness in Christ means that Christ alone is sufficient for everything we need. Christ alone is sufficient for salvation. Christ alone is the only way to have abundant life (John 10:10). When we say that Christ alone is sufficient, it means there's no additional teaching or knowledge apart from Christ that can lead to salvation. There's no other person or thing that gives us fulfilling and abundant lives. There's no other power than can fight sin. He is the fullness of God and we are filled in Him. We're complete in Him. Verses 11-12 Paul discusses circumcision which seems odd to mention, but Paul picks up on this imagery and shifts it to focus on the New Covenant through Christ. Hebrew males were circumcised on the eighth day after their birth as a sign that they were members of the covenant family of Israel. It was an outward sign that they were a part of the God's people, the nation of Israel. Paul says that it's our hearts that is now the sign. The sign that we are a part of God's people now is that we've put off our old lives and we now live for Christ. In a world that is always wanting 'bigger and better' we can be assured that Jesus is the only one who can fulfil and sustain us and is bigger and better than we could ever imagine.