

Lesson Six
Colossians 2:6-8
A Faithful Church

Paul has an intense concern for the church at Colosse to remain steadfast in true faith. He emphasizes the importance of faith in Christ giving stability that would not be easily uprooted. Paul knows that the only safeguard against error for the Christian is the full knowledge of Christ, but he also urges the believer to continue on in faithful perseverance. Verse 6 states that we are to *walk in Him* and this requires that we be moving forward and not remain stationary in our Christian walks. These verses reveal to us that Christ is to be the source and strength of our life as we walk with Him.

Day One – Walking in Christ
Read Colossians 2:6-7

1. Every walk begins with an initial first step. Paul points to the reception of Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior as the beginning point of the Christian walk. To help you better understand why this is so, use a dictionary or concordance to define each of these words.

Christ:

Jesus:

Lord:

2. The Christian walk is meant to be a strong, confident stride. The scriptures are clear concerning how we should walk versus how we should no longer walk. Complete the chart to see the contrast.

How to Walk	How NOT to Walk
Romans 6:4	Ephesians 4:17-19
Ephesians 5:8	Philippians 3:18-19
1 John 2:6	2 Peter 2:10

a. In what ways has the Holy Spirit used these verses to speak to you?

3. Walking with Jesus means living in union with Him. In Colossians 2:7, Paul outlines how this is possible. List the words or phrases that describe a Christ-centered walk.

4. Why are roots necessary for a plant and a foundation essential for a building?

5. Psalm 1:1-3 is a beautiful illustration of walking in such a way that will guarantee that we will be firmly rooted in Christ. What do you learn?

a. Select one of these verses to meditate on today and write it on a 3 x 5 card. Below the verse, list the actions you will take to flourish like the tree described in this passage.

Day Two – Foundation in Christ
Read Colossians 2:6-7

1. In addition to walking with Christ, we are to be *built up in Him*. What do you learn about spiritual building from 1 Corinthians 3:11 and Jude 1:20-21?

2. Once a foundation is established, it's time to build! What materials does 2 Peter 1:5-7 say you should use?

3. Think about how you are building in your life. Which of these godly qualities do you need to add to your faith to do a bit of personal remodeling?

a. Why did you choose this one?

4. The life centered on Christ will be grateful. What do these verses say about thanksgiving?

Ephesians 5:20

1 Thessalonians 5:18

5. Abounding gratitude should be evident in every believer's life. Use Psalm 34:1-3 as a model to help you write a prayer of thanksgiving below.

Day Three – Cautious in Christ

Read Colossians 2:8

1. Caution! Warning! Watch Out! These are strong words meant to help us avoid potential dangers. In the same way, Paul alerts believers to teachings that can be hazardous to spiritual health. What terms does he use in verse 8?

2. The Greek word for *cheat* means to take captive. How could conflicting views on doctrine take listeners captive and undermine the power of Jesus?

3. A philosophy or worldview is a set of beliefs about God, the universe, and our place in it as human beings. The Bible is clear that not any philosophy will do. How does the Bible contrast the gospel with man-made philosophy?

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

1 Timothy 6:20-21

2 Peter 1 :16

4. What kinds of things influence and shape a person's way of thinking?

5. How can you guard against being led away from Christ?

2 Timothy 2:15-16

2 Timothy 3:14-17

6. We highly encourage you to talk to someone who has a solid devotional life in the Word. Ask them for ideas on how you can improve your study of the Bible. Write what you learn from them below.

a. How will you implement at least one of their suggestions this week?

Day Four – Wise in Christ

Read Colossians 2:8

1. Paul states in Colossians 2:8 that the traditions of men are rituals and beliefs handed down from generation to generation. What did Jesus have to say to the religious leaders of His day regarding these regulations in Mark 7:5-13?

2. Name some of the traditions of the modern church.

3. What instructions do 1 Thessalonians 5:21 and 1 John 4:1-3 give that will help you know which ones are acceptable and which are unacceptable?

4. In Colossians 2:8, Paul condemns the basic principles of the world that had crept into the believer's lives and way of thinking. Describe the various ways that Christians today are cheated by following the ideologies and philosophies of the world or unbelievers.

5. None of us is immune to the influences of worldly teachings. What can you do to live out the exhortation found in 2 Peter 3:18?

"If we hold on to God's truth, we won't be trapped by Satan's lies." Author Unknown

