

POWER UP



Getting Sidetracked

Colossians 2:16-23

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Our journey through the New Testament book of Colossians has repeatedly reminded us of who Jesus Christ is and what He has done for us. We stand before God complete in Christ (2:10). You would think that our understanding of these truths would keep us from getting sidetracked in our walk with Christ. However...

How do we keep our walk with Christ from getting sidetracked into unhealthy extremes?

1. By choosing substance over shadow (16-17)

2. By choosing the Word over personal experience (18-19)

3. By choosing authenticity over appearance (20-23)

THE ONE THING: Our sufficiency is in Christ

taking it home

{ notes for small group,
family & personal study

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Each week, *Taking it Home* notes are now graciously written by a team of Oakwood writers: Shana Hammond, Shelley Hooper, Rich Jefferson, Tom Reilly & Al Spiegel

keeping it real

1 “Political correctness” is one of the more infamous cultural forces of our time. It is one of our day’s most common ways of judging one another. Do you have any personal experience with this cultural phenomenon? Can you think of any examples of culturally “sacred” rituals, rules, or traditions?

look at the book

2 Discuss the relationship between shadows and light—how does Paul want the Colossians to think about the religious system of their heritage? (v.16-17)

3 What happens in our relationships when we “judge” (criticize or berate) one another for infractions of one of our pet religious observances? Why do you think Paul reiterates the “body” metaphor from chapter one in this context?

the next step

4 Read Romans 14, which discusses the problem of looking down on others who make a big deal about religious rules you don’t feel bound to follow. Think of some individuals or groups who are serious about practices that seem unnecessary or even silly to you. Pray about ways to accept their practices with joy, even as you retain the freedom you enjoy, and keep the focus on love and unity among God’s people.

my next step this week is to:

- Memorize 1 Samuel 16:7.
- Identify the ways I attempt to make myself look good spiritually and discuss it with a friend.
- Try to understand why I am so critical of certain people or practices.
- Other _____