



Colossians reveals that Paul doesn't just want to bring people to Christ; He wants to bring people to maturity in Christ. And Paul knows the fruits of faith, joy and love grow when a disciple is firmly grounded in all that Jesus is. So he calls on believers then and now to go deeper in Christ...to be **ROOTED**.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by reminding us that "Paul doesn't just want people to come to Christ; he wants people to come to maturity in Christ." Why is that important and what has been one key thing that has helped you to become more mature in Christ recently? Follow up: **Read Colossians 1:24-2:8**. What stands out to you from this part of Paul's letter?

2 GOT WISDOM? *What keeps many Christians from reaching maturity is their reliance on the wisdom of the world.* Share some examples of how you've seen this to be true. In what area of life are you most tempted to rely on the wisdom of this world?

3 All disciples are **washed**; rooted disciples are **wise**. **Read Proverbs 3:5; 1 Corinthians 2:6; and Ephesians 5:15**. How do these verses encourage us to look for wisdom from above? Follow up: Share some examples from the life of Jesus where he displayed his wisdom. What is a practical way you can look at and live in the world around you through the lens of the Christ who is in you?

4 GET WISDOM! Decide that Jesus is smart. *The biblical witness is that Jesus knows his stuff (see Luke 2:40, Matthew 13:31, and Revelation 5:12).* Have you ever considered Jesus to be the smartest, wisest person in the world? Why is that a crucial question when it comes to following Jesus? Note: think back to the Dallas Willard quote that Rick shared from *The Divine Conspiracy* – What stood out to you the most from that quote? How should that impact the decisions we make each day?

5 GET WISDOM! Understand that true wisdom is Spirit-given and prayer-driven. *Spiritual wisdom always involves knowledge of the scriptures, but Bible study does not always result in having wisdom.* With that in mind, what role does prayer play in providing us with more wisdom (see **James 1:5, Colossians 1:9** and **Ephesians 1:17**)? Follow up: Why is it so important to allow our minds to be renewed daily by the Holy Spirit (see **1 Corinthians 2:12-14**)? What habits or practices help you in this area?

6 GET WISDOM! Realize that Jesus' wisdom makes little sense to the world. *One reason Christians are susceptible to deception is that the way of Jesus often seems like nonsense to the prevailing culture.* How have you seen this to be true? When are we most tempted to accommodate our views with "conventional wisdom" so that we will seem less weird? Follow up: Share some examples of how *the first Christians took strikingly counter-cultural positions on so many issues because they were rooted in the wisdom of Christ*. Which one convicts you the most? Bonus question: How is the wisdom of the cross different from the wisdom of the world (see **1 Corinthians 1:18-24**)?

7 Rick closed by reminding us that "All disciples believe in Jesus; rooted disciples believe Jesus." Why is that distinction so pivotal? Follow up: What is one next step you can take this week to pursue the wisdom of Jesus? How might that cost you?

