



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 Read Colossians 2:9-23.** Rick started by saying that disciples who know their victory is decided will always be the most devoted. That's because they are rooted in the triumph of Christ..Mature believers are secure believers. How is your outlook changed when you engage the enemy **from** victory and not **for** victory? Discuss what difference it makes for you, when you are confident that Jesus has won the victory.

**2 JESUS' TRIUMPH PUT our deadness to death.** Rick noted the difference between resurrection and resuscitation. Resuscitation creates a desire to win God's approval by following rules. But Paul says, "These rules may seem wise...but they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires" (v.23). So, what makes legalism (vs. 16-23) so appealing, and why does it ultimately fail to bring us to maturity? How is the answer to your maturity found in God making you alive with Christ? (v. 13). How does your outlook change when you are fully rooted in your union with Christ through the Holy Spirit?

**3 JESUS' TRIUMPH PUT my sin debt away forever.** In what ways do we make it hard to believe that Jesus has forgiven us of **all** our sins? It helps to realize that through the cross, Jesus destroyed the document where your sins were recorded. Verse 13 says, "He canceled the record of the charges against us..." That means even the imprint that the pen left is gone forever. But Rick reminded...*the enemy is vanquished, but he has not yet vanished. He will try to use your memory of*

*past failures to stunt and derail your future growth. Read Hebrews 8:12.* What good reminders can you store in your heart to rebuff Satan's attempt to uproot your confidence in Jesus' triumph?

**4 JESUS' TRIUMPH PUT the futility of the enemy on display** (v.15). Rick said, *The cross exposed Satan as history's biggest loser. Read John 12:31-32.* Rick continued saying, *Jesus invaded enemy-held territory to defeat the powers of darkness. Every healing and every exorcism was an act of war...the war's outcome was decided at Calvary.* In what ways can we maintain a true and healthy outlook that Jesus' triumph is *forever*, and that Satan will never mount another offensive?

**5** In Rick's final appeal he said, **Baptism is publicly declaring my faith is Jesus' triumph. Read Colossians 2:12.** When anyone makes a public declaration of faith, Jesus wins again! To participate in the death and resurrection of Jesus, is to participate in the greatest triumph in all eternity! Spend a little time sharing your baptism story. How does remembering your baptism continue to bless you today?