

Continue in Christ | Colossians 2:1-15

IDEA

You are alive in Christ, so continue in him.

SUMMARY

The Colossians grew bored with their incomplete understanding of the Christian faith, seeking to return to their old ways of life (v 8). Paul continues to expand that they are united to Christ, having access to all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and understanding (v 3). So since they've already received Christ, rooted and established in him, the question is: why would you allow yourself to be kidnapped and return to your old ways of living? Jesus, in other words, did not help the Colossians live a full life.

But the reality is that Jesus, thru his death, rescued you from your old ways of living. "Jesus is greater than your old way of life. He is greater than your addiction, your sexual brokenness, your upbringing and family of origin. Jesus is greater. You are dead to sin. But alive to Christ. The old is gone. The new has come. You are a new creation." (From the sermon).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When people say, 'I have lived a full life,' what do they typically mean?
2. How are - philosophy, empty deceit, human tradition, and the elemental spirits - enslaving (v 8)?
3. How did Jesus rescue you from your old ways of life (v 14-15)?
4. How does forgiveness empower you to change? Conversely, how does bitterness, resentment, and holding onto grudges enslave you? How have you seen this in your own life?
5. Paul's audacious claim is that Jesus defeated all your enemies upon the cross (v 15). If you know Jesus, the same is true for you. "Jesus is greater than your old way of life. He is greater than your addiction, your sexual brokenness, your upbringing and family of origin. Jesus is greater. You are dead to sin. But alive to Christ. The old is gone. The new has come. You are a new creation." How have you seen God at work in your life, helping you change and be victorious over old ways of living?