

GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

What's something you "graduated" from years ago (a hobby, a job, a phase of life) that you're now realizing you probably should have stuck with longer? Or, on the flip side, something you're glad you stayed with?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Spend some time in prayer for one another.

HELPFUL BACKGROUND INFO

Demas

A coworker of Paul mentioned three times in the New Testament. In Colossians 4:14 and Philemon 24, Paul calls him a fellow laborer. But in 2 Timothy 4:10, Paul writes that Demas "loved this present world" and deserted him. He's a sobering picture of someone who slowly drifted toward something else.

"Philosophy and Empty Deceit" (v. 8)

Paul isn't condemning all thinking or learning. The Greek word for "philosophy" refers to the speculative, persuasive-sounding teachings being smuggled into the church. They had a "reputation for wisdom" but no power to actually change a human heart.

KEY OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

Read Colossians 2:6-8.

1. In verse 6, what's the connection Paul draws between how the Colossians received Christ and how they should continue to walk in Him?
2. Paul uses four descriptive phrases in verse 7 to describe the Christian life. What are they, and what picture does each one paint?
3. According to verse 8, what is Paul warning the Colossians could happen to them, and what are the means by which it could happen?
4. What does Paul contrast "philosophy and empty deceit" with at the end of verse 8?
5. Look back at Colossians 1:9-10 and 1:21-22. What does Paul say is the purpose of being filled with the knowledge of God's will?

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

"You never graduate from the gospel." In your own words, what does it mean to treat the gospel like a diploma, a ticket to the next big thing, rather than the foundation of your whole life?

How does the truth that in Christ we find God's Will, Wisdom, and Wonder reshape the questions you're currently asking about your life?

Where in your life might you be taking a good, God-given question to a source other than Christ?

Are there voices (teachers, influencers, podcasts, philosophies, even self-help frameworks) that have begun to compete with Christ as your primary source of wisdom or purpose? What needs to change?

Paul says the Colossians were to be "rooted and built up" in Christ and "overflowing with gratitude." What habits help you sink your roots deeper? Which habits in your life are pulling them up?

What's one practice you can put in place to return to Christ quickly instead of waiting until the drift becomes desertion?

ACCOUNTABILITY Q&A

How are you feeding your soul?

How are you feeding your flesh?

How are you feeding others?

GET INVOLVED!

God gives each of us a gift to build his church! Join one of our ministry teams or mission partners! Email Jodi@trinitybible.org for more info and next steps.