



# Grace Group Guide



**United Purpose:** Together we will designate time and place to deepening our desire for God, caring for and urging each other to action!

**United Actions: WL Groups...**

- Scripture:** Be in the Word together
- Encouragement:** One another each other
- Prayer:** With and for each other and the lost
- Accountability:** Now What? Put it into action!



**-Icebreaker-**

- What is everybody's favorite tree? And why?
- Discuss the importance of roots to a tree (remember pastor Kip's illustration from last week?). What can a tree with good roots withstand?

**Transition:**

- In verses 6-7, Paul calls us to be "rooted and built up" in Christ. Just as a healthy tree needs deep roots in good soil, the Christian needs deep roots in Christ. And in the verses that follow, Paul will explain in more detail why being rooted in Christ is so necessary.

**-Discussion-**

Read Colossians 2:6-15

- **In verse 11, Paul talks about circumcision. Why does he do this? And what is he saying?**
  - Key questions to consider as you answer this:
    - What was the purpose of circumcision in the OT?
    - How is OT circumcision similar and different from the circumcision Paul writes about here?
  - **Potential answer:** physical circumcision was an identity marker for the Jewish people, signifying their status as an Israelite and thus part of God's covenant people. Paul says that the New Testament believer, on the other hand, has been circumcised with a circumcision "not performed by human hands" and "by Christ" and links this to their faith in Christ (which is expressed outwardly through baptism) (v. 12). This spiritual circumcision of the heart (Rom. 2:29) is what marks an individual as part of the new covenant people of God.
- **Verse 12 talks about being buried with Christ in baptism. What does this mean? And what does it tell us about baptism?**
  - **Potential answer:** baptism signifies our new life in Christ... going into the water signifies our old self being "buried" with Christ, and coming out of the water signifies our being raised (or being "made alive" – v. 13) with Christ into new life.
- **There is an amazing description of Christ's death in verses 13-15. What stands out to you in these verses? And why is it so important that we remember what Christ did for us?**

**-Reflection-**

- Verse 8 warns against being taken captive by "hollow and deceptive philosophy." What might this look like today? What are some deceptive philosophies that threaten to take us captive?
- How can we continue to be rooted and built up in Christ?
- What emotions come to mind when you read about what Christ did (for you!) in verses 13-15?

**-Application-**

- What are some practical ways that you can take this week to remain rooted in Christ and avoid hollow and deceptive philosophies?

**-Pray-**

- Ask the Lord to show you how you can stay rooted in Him and to help you do so.
- Praise Jesus for what He has done for us.