

COLOSSIANS: WEEK 4

Mike Howerton - Lead Pastor

Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.

Colossians 2:13b NLT

In Jesus, we are _____ and

*He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross. **Colossians 2:14,15 NLT***

*So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial or the worship of angels, saying they have had visions about these things. Their sinful minds have made them proud, and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it. You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"? Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires. **Colossians 2:16-23 NLT***

*We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. **1 Timothy 1:8 NIV***

*The old system in the law of Moses was only a shadow of the things to come, not the reality of the good things Christ has done for us. **Hebrews 10:1 NLT***

*For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. **Colossians 2:17 NLT***

*You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"? Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires. **Colossians 2:20-23 NLT***

We are _____ in Jesus

Their sinful minds have made them proud, and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it. Colossians 2:19 NLT

To avoid _____, stay _____ to Jesus

Christ is the head of the church, which is His body. Colossians 1:18a NLT

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. Romans 12:4-6 NLT

If you can do _____, do _____ with all the faith you have

QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS //

- *Colossians 2:3 talks about being ALIVE and FORGIVEN. Is there anything you are holding onto that makes this truth difficult to grasp?*
- *Is there a time where you have felt like legalism has crept into your faith story?*
- *What are the benefits of being SET FREE in Jesus?*
- *Take a few minutes to discuss this statement: "We are set free, not merely NOT to do bad, but to DO good"*
- *What are some of the ways you stay connected to Jesus?*
- *What can you DO with all the faith that you have?*