

Colossians 2:6-15 Discussion Questions

- At the beginning, Ben referenced John Bunyan's book *The Pilgrim's Progress*. How does Bunyan's image of the backpack help explain what Christ does for sinners at the cross?
- Paul calls believers to walk in Christ, "rooted and built up in him." Why is it significant that we are rooted in a person, not a system, culture, or set of moral principles?
 - Have you thought of Christianity as one of these alternatives at any point in your life?
- What are some signs that our faith is becoming "rooted and built up" rather than shallow or surface-level?
- In the sermon, Ben said, "Roots are mostly invisible." What are some hidden spiritual habits that have strengthened you over time?
- Why is patience important in spiritual growth?
- Paul calls us to thanksgiving - or gratitude. Why do gratitude and envy struggle to coexist in the human heart?
- In Bunyan's book, the phrase "Vanity Fair" symbolizes worldly distractions and counterfeit saviors. What are some modern versions of "Vanity Fair" that we are tempted to settle into?
- What does it mean to be "taken captive by philosophy and empty deceit"?
- Ben said every false gospel answers 3 questions: "Who are you? What's wrong? What saves you?" How does the biblical gospel answer those questions differently?

- Which counterfeit gospel do you think is most common in our culture today, and why? (expressive individualism, legalism, careerism, etc)
- In explaining verses 11-12, Ben said God essentially “kills” us. How is that so? What does it mean that our “old self” has been crucified with Christ?
- Verse 14 says our “record of debt” was nailed to the cross. How should that truth shape the way we deal with guilt, shame, and condemnation?
- Verse 15 describes Christ defeating the powers of darkness through the cross. Why is it significant that what looked like defeat was actually victory?
- Near the end, Ben said these truths are meant to “strengthen weary travelers.” Which part of this passage most encourages you to “keep walking” with Christ?