

A Better Way Forward

January 10, 2021

Colossians 2:6-23

OPENING PRAYER:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree or disagree with in the sermon this week?
- Think back to the last time you were truly happy. What made you happy and why did it make you happy?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:¹

Read Colossians 2:6-23

- What are your initial thoughts on this passage?
- When you hear that someone is a “religious” person, what do you tend to think about them?
- What does “living in Christ” involve (v. 6)? What are the biggest challenges to doing so in our current culture?
- What “hollow and deceptive” philosophies do you notice in today’s society? Which are you most tempted to buy into?
- Describe the evidence of someone being “alive” in Christ? What are some of the character qualities that they possess that others might not?

NEXT STEPS:

- What are some practical things you could do this week to demonstrate that you are *living in Christ*?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me. (a prayer of St. Patrick)

¹ Adapted from *The Serendipity Bible* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 1998) & with gratitude to GPS by the Church of the Resurrection.