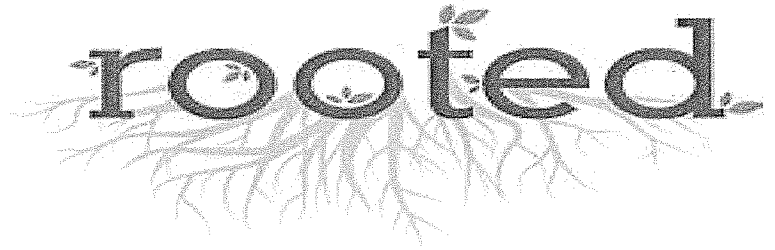


Victory in Jesus

Colossians 2:6-15



INTRODUCTION

The enemy wants you to be a spiritual couch potato. He wants you to settle for mediocrity. He wants to use your own failures and inadequacies to tear you down and trick you into believing that the battle still rages on. But scripture shows us that the battle is already won---that the death and resurrection of Christ has secured our victory and provides for us the way to claim that victory; sink your roots down into Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Paul describe the on-going dependence on Christ that should characterize believers? (There are five aspects to this dependence in 2:6-7).
2. In his message, Pastor Brian gave keys to victory, including, blocking the world from having access to our walk with Christ and preventing the enemy from having access to our walk. What are some practical steps you can take in your life to block the enemy and the pattern of this world from having access to your relationship with Christ?
3. Read Colossians 2:6-8. In verse 8, Paul speaks of being taken captive by *“hollow or deceptive philosophies that depend on human tradition and basic principals of this world.”* Give some examples of philosophies and current trends of thought that are likely influenced by basic principals and spiritual forces of this world. Can you think of any hollow/deceptive philosophies or beliefs that have tricked, confused or taken you captive?
4. In Mark 7, Jesus says, *“They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.”* He tells them that they nullify the Word of God by their traditions that they have handed down. Are there any traditions or teachings that the church holds onto that you feel distract from or nullify the Word of God? Are there any traditions or teachings that you have always held onto that may qualify as “rules taught by men?”
5. Is there any sense of guilt or failure that you hold onto as a believer that the enemy uses to condemn you, make you feel unworthy of the calling, tear you down, add weight to your heart or rob you of your victory? How can this group help you to overcome these lies of the enemy?

MOVING FORWARD

This world will not provide you with freedom. It will distract you from the truth of the gospel, using hollow and deceptive ideas to try to rob you of the victory that you have in Jesus. But the blood of Jesus testifies to our victory and his resurrection has embarrassed the devil and his lies. Jesus is enough!

CHANGING YOUR MIND

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.
Colossians 2:13-15