

### Getting To Know You

1. What are some philosophies, human traditions, festivals, or areas that take our attention off of Christ and place them on to something else?
2. What are some false teachings that are prevalent in our culture today?
3. J.C. Ryle said, "What is the best safeguard against false doctrine? 'The Bible: the Bible regularly read, regularly prayed over, regularly studied' & 'We should no more tolerate false doctrine than we should tolerate sin'. Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
4. Albert Mohler said, "Today's church cannot remain faithful if it tolerates false teachers and leaves their teachings uncorrected and unchallenged." Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
5. Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### Digging Deeper

1. In Colossians 2:4, Paul says, "I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments". What is Paul referring to? What were some of the ways that they were susceptible? What are some ways that we are susceptible? Are we immune from the possibility of this? Explain. How do we guard ourselves from this?
2. What is the process that Paul lays out for Christian growth and maturity (starting in vs.6)? Once we have received Christ, how do we begin to walk with Him? What does that entail? What does that look like?

How does a tree become rooted, built up, and established? As believers, how do we? In what ways are you becoming rooted or have become rooted? Is this something that is automatic? Was this something that the Church at Colossae had achieved? Explain. Have you achieved it? Explain.

As we grow and mature, what does it produce? How is this displayed in our gratitude/thanksgiving?

3. What is the warning that Paul gives Colossae in vs. 8? Can you think of any modern-day examples of this? Do we establish any human traditions in the church? What are the dangers of doing this? How does it take away from Christ? Explain. How is the gospel the opposite of this?

What was Paul's response to this dynamic? How is Christ pictured here? What did Christ do? Is the gospel enough? What does our world need? Why is the gospel just as much relevant to believers as unbelievers?

4. What were some religious traditions that began to infiltrate the church that Paul had to address? What was the purpose of these? Do we ever do this today? If so, what are some examples? How do we avoid getting caught up in these kinds of things? What is the anecdote? Explain.

5. In verse 17, Paul says, “These are a shadow of things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do you ever get distracted by the shadows and lose sight of the substance? Explain. How had Colossae allowed intellectualism, rituals, mysticism, and legalism to shadow over the substance of Christ? Do we do this? If so, how? How do we reject the shadows and focus on the substance?

#### Growing Closer

1. Who is someone you shared the gospel with this week?
2. What have you been reading in your quiet times?
3. What has God been teaching you?