

Lesson 8

Colossians 2:1-7

Day 1

KEEP IT IN PERSPECTIVE

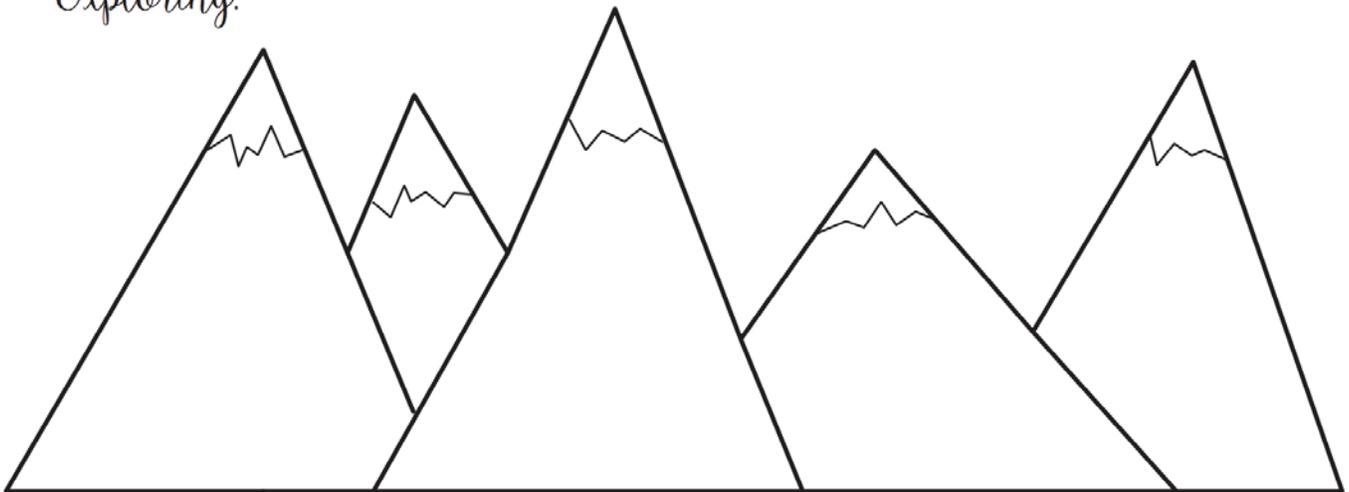
1. In chapter 1, Paul thanks God for a strong group of believers whom he has never met, but prays that they may be “filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding that they might walk in a manner worthy of the Lord (1:9-10). Paul then explains the greatness of Christ and reconciliation with Christ (1:13-23). Lastly, he rejoices in his ministry of reconciliation and the accompaniment of suffering that validates and advances the gospel. It is by Jesus’s resurrection power that one can be a part of the gospel work fulfilling the Great Commission. Read chapter 2, and think about how chapter 1 relates to chapter 2. Without consulting an outside source, describe how this chapter relates to the last chapter.
2. In the boxes below, explain verses 1-7 in only one or two sentences. Think about how you would explain it to a 10 year old child. I usually ask myself, “Who is doing what, and why is he doing it?” This is usually enough to get the main point of the thought into one or two sentences.

Chapter 2	Verses 1-7	Verses 8-15	Verses 16-19	Verses 20-23
Paragraph explanation				

EXPLORING THE THEME

3. Look for the word: KNOWLEDGE throughout all four chapters of Colossians. Write down the verses where you find this word and what you learn about it.

Exploring:



Day 2

4. In Colossians 2:1, we see Paul struggling (Gk 73 *agon*, where we get our English word, “agony”) for those believers in Colossae and Laodicea whom he has never met. What is Paul’s specific concern according to Colossians 2:2?

5. Paul wants the Colossians to be encouraged “having been knit together in love.” What does this mean, and how does this word picture help you understand Paul’s meaning? (Ephesians 4:16, Colossians 2:19)

6. Paul desires that the believers attain to “all the wealth.” From where does this wealth that he desires for them come? Refer to Romans 4:21 and Hebrews 11:1 to gain a fuller understanding of this concept.

7. When this wealth is attained, what results?

8. What is “God’s mystery” in 1:2? See also 1 Timothy 3:16.



GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

9. List ways that your heart is encouraged based on the knitting together with other saints who also rely with full assurance on Christ.

Day 4

14. According to 1:4, what is the danger of **not** having the full assurance of understanding resulting in the true knowledge of Christ?

15. Later in chapter two, Paul reveals what kind of persuasive argument was being made to the Colossians by deceivers. What was it?

16. According to Colossians 2:5 and Ephesians 4:11-16, what dangerous results can occur when someone is deluded?



GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

17. Read the passages below and describe what your part is in growing in wisdom and understanding in order to lead a stable life. Which of these are you carrying out?

Matthew 7:24-27

Acts 17:11

Psalm 1:1-3

Hebrews 3:13

Day 5

As Christians, we have been given a set course to travel that leads us to our heavenly home. In our original unbelief, we were walking on our personal path headed toward Hell. However, at the hearing of the gospel, God shifted our orientation. We turned (repentance) from our set direction (sins) and began to travel with our faces turned toward God (obedience) traveling as strangers and aliens until, one day, we reach our final destination of Heaven.

18. Once turned toward our heavenly home, we are told not to sit, sleep, or set up camp. What is commanded in 2:6? What does it mean? Use Ephesians 2:2-3 help you define the meaning.

19. This is the first command that has been given to the Colossians. Why do you think this command is the first one given in Colossians, and what does it have to do with what the Colossians were experiencing?

20. According to Colossians 2:6-7, what actions and attitudes accompanied the Colossians' salvation? In other words, **how** were they to walk? Describe any word pictures that come to your mind as you imagine these actions and attitudes.



GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

21. What is characterizing your journey? Is there movement? What areas are roadblocks to making progress in your faith?

22. Are the actions and attitudes from Colossians 2:6-7 accompanying your salvation? How can the word pictures help you in your mindset to live these out?

23. How does walking in the Lord look in your day-to-day life? In what special circumstances has God called you to walk, and are you thankful?