



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Worship | Community | Mission

“You Died with Christ”

Colossians 2:16-23

Warm-Up Question:

If you were to give “something” up or fast from something for Lent, what would it be?

- Reread the passage. What stood out to you from the sermon or struck you from the text?
- Share about a time when you felt judged. What was it like? Was somebody trying to add some sort of requirement to the gospel?
- How does the illustration about the nearby community that was poisoned by contaminated groundwater help us understand the importance of adding nothing to the gospel?
- What are some tangible examples of how helpful it is to know that it is fallen human nature to assume our relationship with God is merit-based, instead of grace-based?
- How does the illustration about The Biggest Loser help us understand why people are judgmental?
- Read verse 20. How does Paul’s question give us the answer?
- If we feel pressured to submit to man-made rules and regulations, what are we forgetting? (Hint: we’ve died with Christ, Col. 1:13)
- How does the illustration about the girl who was adopted help us preach the gospel to ourselves; particularly in regard to the fact that we no longer living in a merit-based reality?

Main Point of the Sermon:

Christ rescues us from the guilt and shame we experience when people are judgmental

Sermon Points:

1. What was happening?
 - Because the heart struggles to accept Grace, some try to add to the gospel.
 - Legalism: works righteousness
 - Mysticism: “special” knowledge
 - Asceticism: unrequired self-denial

Illustration: A community of people were being poisoned by a person who allowed used motor oil to drain into their water source.

2. Why was it happening?
 - It is humanity’s fallen, merit-based, nature that leads people to rely on themselves (for righteousness) instead of Christ; and it makes them judgmental.

Illustration: A wrong way to understand the gospel is to just out-perform those around us, which brings about judging others.

3. How did Paul address it?
 - Good news: if you are in Christ (through faith), you are no longer in a merit-based reality. You’re in the grace-based reality of the Kingdom.