



ALL
&
NOTHING

WEEK 3

Fullness in Christ

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NOTES

NOTES

WARM-UP

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- How do you respond when a friend gives you a special treat or a free meal? Why?
 - Have you ever read a story or watched a movie that had a sad and unexpected ending? Did you like it? Why or why not?
 - Tell us about one of the most selfless people you know. What has he or she done to show this?

WORD

¹¹*In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.* **COLOSSIANS 2:11,12**

(Read also **COLOSSIANS 2:13-15.**)

The Apostle Paul explained the fullness of who Christ is and what He has done for us in his letter to the church in Colossae. He knew that the only way they would resist false teachings is to know, understand, and believe in the gospel. Christ paid the full price for our redemption and for our reconciliation to the Father. In Him, we who were dead, in debt, and defeated can live, be forgiven, and be victorious. In this lesson, we will look at what Christ has done for us.

1 Christ died in our place.

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses . . . **COLOSSIANS 2:13**

We deserved to die for our sins. But because of God's mercy and love, Christ took our place. In Him, we are made alive and new. Now, when God sees us, He sees Christ's atoning sacrifice. What were we dead on? Who made us alive?

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2 Christ paid for our sins.

¹³. . . God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

COLOSSIANS 2:13,14

Because of our sin and rebellion against God, we owed a debt we could not pay. Now, in Christ, we have been forgiven of all this and our debt has been cancelled on the cross. Only Jesus can offer us the forgiveness for our sins—and there is nothing we can or should do to deserve this. In Luke 7:47, why do you think Jesus said that forgiveness results in love? How much have you been forgiven? How much should you love?

3 Christ defeated demonic powers.

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. **COLOSSIANS 2:15**

(Read also **EPHESIANS 6:10-13**.)

Christ not only gave us redemption and forgiveness; He also gave us victory over every spiritual force of evil. This should not cause us to be in fear of the enemy or to be overly curious about him. Rather, it should cause us to be confident in Christ's victory and to be assured that He has ultimate power and authority. Since the spiritual realm is real, how should we respond, according to Ephesians 6:13?

APPLICATION

- Do you believe that you have been forgiven little or much? How will this affect the way you love God and others?
- Are there sins that you've asked God to forgive, but you still feel condemned about? Do you believe that in Christ your record of debt has been cancelled and nailed to the cross? Would you be willing to meditate on and learn from Romans 8 this week?
- Knowing that there is a spiritual aspect to our world, how do you think you should live and respond? In what area do you need to resist the enemy? Do you believe that if you resist the devil, he will flee from you (James 4:7)?

PRAYER

- Thank God for the complete and sufficient sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Thank God that in Christ we have redemption, forgiveness, reconciliation, and victory.
- Pray that you would have a greater understanding of the gospel, and that this will result in a changed life. Pray that your new life would be a testimony of God's mercy and love.
- Ask God to give you the power to resist the enemy. Pray that you would be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Pray that you would take up the whole armor of God, withstand the schemes of the enemy, and stand firm.



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