**LifeGroup Study**

**YOU’RE RICHER THAN YOU THINK**

**Jesus Plus Nothing**

**2022-05-15**

**Participant Notes**

**OVERVIEW:**

Welcome back to our series, You’re Richer Than You Think. This week we’re looking at Colossians 2:6-23 and focusing in on a key idea from the passage - “Jesus plus nothing.”   In Paul’s day, the Colossians were facing pressure to add something to their faith, to add something to Jesus. Two areas they faced were adding mystical polytheism and adding the observance of Old Testament laws. Paul makes the point that Jesus triumphed over all spiritual powers and fulfilled the laws.  Jesus is the reality to which the laws pointed.   The goals of this week are that we would discern the temptations to add something to Jesus and that we would live in the freedom Jesus wants us to experience, the freedom of being full and complete in Him.

**ICEBREAKER:** I Really Thought I Needed It!

When I was in high school I really thought I needed an ATV (all-terrain vehicle) to make my life complete. I had posters of ATVs in my room that fueled my dream of how awesome it would be to own one. There were some small challenges to making this dream come true. First, we lived in the city and I had no place to drive it or store it. Second, my parents didn’t want me bombing around on an ATV at that stage! But that didn’t stop the dream. I really thought I needed an ATV to make my life complete! How about you? What have you had on your radar where you’ve thought – “I really need that!” **Share your story with the group!**

**STUDY:**

1. On Sunday, Pete talked about the idea of “Jesus Plus Nothing”. He encouraged us not to give in to the temptation of thinking we’re missing something in our faith. In Jesus we have everything we need. **What was a highlight for you from Pete’s teaching?**

**READ: Colossians 2:6-23**

1. Read verses 6 – 7 again. What are the action words in these verses? **What do these mean for your walk with Jesus?**

1. Read verse 8 again. Paul warns us to not be taken captive by “hollow and deceptive philosophy” . **What are some practical examples of “hollow and deceptive philosophy” today?**
2. In verse 8, Paul says these hollow philosophies depend on “human tradition and the elemental forces of *this world* rather than on Christ.” **How can we be wise about our response to the secular teachings and ideas in this world?**
3. Read vs. 9 – 10 again. In these verses, Paul uses the word “fullness” twice. **How does this speak to the idea of Jesus plus nothing?**
4. Read vs. 11 – 15 again. Focus especially on vs. 13. **What does Paul means when he says we were “dead” but now we’re “alive”?**
5. Read vs. 15 again. **What does this verse tell us about the power of our spiritual enemy?**
6. Read vs. 16 – 19 again. Here we have examples of what people wanted to “add” to Jesus. Go back through the verses and look again at the specific examples. **What are similar examples from our day?**
7. Read vs. 20-23 again. **How does your freedom in Christ guide your response to pressure to add something to Jesus?**
8. What has been a key takeaway for you from this study? Is there something in your life you have added to Jesus? What would it look like to take that away? Is there way of seeing the world through the lens of Jesus that has shaped you? **Share your takeaway with the group.**

**EXPERIENCE GOD**

LISTEN: Who You Say I Am – Hillsong Worship <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lKw6uqtGFfo>

RESPOND: Jesus, thank You that I am fully free in You! In You I am chosen and complete. Help me to live in that freedom today. AMEN!

**COLOSSIANS DEVOS:**

Each week of this series we have 5 devotionals for you to read on your own.

Read the devos this week and notice how this habit enriches your walk with Jesus!

<https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/richer-than-you-think/>

**PRAY**

This week let’s pray for our EPIC Kids week coming up this summer.

* Volunteers: Pray that we have all the station, room and workshop leaders that we need. Pray that volunteers would be blessed through their service.
* Kids: Pray that their faith would grow. As we introduce kids to Jesus, may they grasp how much he loves them. May they grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
* Families: Pray that families make connections with each other and kids find friends. May Creekside be a great source of community for those who attend.