

10. When Paul brings up circumcision in verse 11, what is he referring to? What does this tell us about who we are in Christ?

11. The “powers and authorities” mentioned in verses 10 and 15 are refer to the demons. What does this tell us about the true nature of worldly thinking? How might acknowledging that Christ has “disarmed” and “made a spectacle of” the demons help us to resist the subtle deception of worldly thinking?

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

12. In what areas of your life are you most tempted to give into worldly wisdom? How does Colossians 2 help us continually evaluate our spiritual health and whether we are focused on Christ or the things of the world?

13. How might we, as a Growth Group, help one another remain firmly rooted in Christ?

Prayer Requests

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May 17, 2015

The Best Decision Ever

Sermon Notes

James 3:13-18

Two S_____ of W_____:

1. Wisdom from the W_____

2. Wisdom from G_____

T_____ Wisdom comes from G_____ through a
R_____ with J_____ C_____.

What do I need to do with what I have heard today?

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

May 17, 2015

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

1. What is the best advice you have ever received? What made this advice so good? What is the worst advice you have ever received? What made it so bad?

2. How do you determine whether a particular piece of advice is good or not? Do you consider the source of the advice and the character of the person giving it? Why or why not?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ COLOSSIANS 2:1-7.

3. What was Paul's struggle with regard to the Colossians and Laodiceans? What do these verses say Paul wanted for the people of Colossae and Laodicea (vv. 2-3)?

4. What danger were the Colossians facing? Who was Paul worried would delude them with persuasive arguments? What worldly philosophies or deceptive arguments threaten our faith today?

5. How have you observed Christians repackage worldly wisdom in "Christian" terms (think about the way Christians talk about dating, politics, retirement, etc.)? What is dangerous about doing so? How can we guard against this tendency?

6. What do you think being "rooted" and "built up" looks like in our day-to-day lives (v. 7)?

7. What are some practical measures we should take to "continue to live" in Christ? How might doing so help us to see the true nature of worldly thinking? If we are not careful, how might worldly thinking creep into the way we think about life, marriage, money, parenting, or work?

8. Read Galatians 1:6-7. What does Paul mean by "another gospel"? How does the search for hidden knowledge amount to searching for "another gospel"?

READ COLOSSIANS 2:8-15.

9. What is appealing about the hollow and deceptive philosophies Paul warned against? What is appealing about the worldly ways of thinking we face today? How can we be more aware of the ways worldly thinking has influenced us (i.e. the way we think about things like success, dating, marriage, money, etc.)?