
Digging Deeper and Rising Higher

How does it speak to the idea of “learning” to know that the “truth” of God is actually a person - the Lord Jesus Christ - in Colossians 2:1-6?

What is the relationship between “knowledge” and “relationship”? With your spouse and/or kids? friends? the Lord Jesus?

Some Thoughts to Take With You

It is no secret that Christ’s Church is not in good health in many places of the world. She has been languishing because she has been fed, as the current line has it, ‘junk food’: All kinds of artificial preservatives and all sorts of unnatural substitutes have been served up to her. As a result, theological and biblical malnutrition has afflicted the very generation that has taken such giant steps to make sure its physical health is not damaged by using foods or products that are harmful to their bodies. Simultaneously a worldwide spiritual famine resulting from the absence of any genuine publication of the Word of God (Amos 8:11) continues to run wild and almost unabated in most quarters of the Church.

Walter Kaiser

Discernment is not a matter of simply telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right.

C. H. Spurgeon

Where there is no “moral gravity” - that is, no force that draws us to the center - there is spiritual weightlessness. We float on feelings that will carry us where we never meant to go; we bubble with emotional experiences that we often take for spiritual ones; and we are puffed up with pride. Instead of seriousness, there is foolishness. Instead of gravity, flippancy. Sentimentality takes the place of theology. Our reference point will never serve to keep our feet on solid rock, for our reference point, until we answer God’s call, is merely ourselves. We cannot possibly tell which end is up. Paul calls them fools who “measure themselves by themselves, to find in themselves their own standard of comparison!”

Elisabeth Elliot



Sermon Notes
September 9, 2007

Our Purpose, Our Privilege, Our Passion, Pt. 2 - Learning

Colossians 1:28 - 2:23

Introduction: Knowing that God has historically chosen to lead and feed His people through His Word, it only makes sense that those who want to live in ever deepening relationship with Him will become dedicated, life-long learners. Yet, learning that is not connected to, and motivated by, a desire for growing, authentic relationship with Jesus Christ will end up producing a proud dogmatism that both produces stubbornness in the soul and division in the church.

The 3 L's: Learning, Loving, and Living

Being whole people
Christ at the center

Learning: Christ teaching us

Loving: Christ changing us

Living: Christ using us

The Goal of Learning

A growing relationship with Jesus Christ
A life being transformed by Jesus Christ

Colossians 2:2-7

The Obstacles to Learning

Cultural counterfeits
Personal complacency

Colossians 2:4, 8, 16-23

Learning at Northpoint

Biblical Knowledge: the broad Biblical story

Theological Knowledge: the broad Biblical themes

Practical Knowledge: the skills of righteous living

So, what do we do with all this?

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