

WEEK OF AUGUST 13, 2023



Above ALL

PREPARE



BEFORE
YOU BEGIN



TALK TOGETHER

PICTURE THIS. YOU'RE ON A WALK WITH YOUR FAMILY. YOU'RE ALLOWED TO RUN AHEAD AND ARE GIVEN ONE EASY RULE: STAY ON THE PATH. SOUNDS EASY, RIGHT?

However, once you get moving, you see so many cool and interesting things! There are frogs jumping, birds rustling in the leaves and a bridge with water rushing underneath it. Before you know it, you're off the path, following all the interesting things you see and hear.

When we become Christians, Jesus changes us forever. Before Jesus saves someone, sin rules their life. But once a person accepts Jesus as their Savior, sin no longer tells them what to do. Jesus becomes that person's leader, and they follow Him instead. The missionary Paul wanted to remind the Colossian believers of this in his letter to them.

You see, sneaky people were trying to tell believers they didn't need to follow Jesus! Let's read what Paul wrote to the Colossians in Colossians 2:6-10.

CONT. →



TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



MORE TO EXPLORE

Discover how this conversation fits into God's Big Story.



THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



THEREFORE, AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, SO WALK IN HIM, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM AND ESTABLISHED IN THE FAITH, JUST AS YOU WERE TAUGHT, ABOUNDING IN THANKSGIVING.

SEE TO IT THAT NO ONE TAKES YOU CAPTIVE BY PHILOSOPHY AND EMPTY DECEIT, ACCORDING TO HUMAN TRADITION, ACCORDING TO THE ELEMENTAL SPIRITS OF THE WORLD, AND NOT ACCORDING TO CHRIST. FOR IN HIM THE WHOLE FULLNESS OF DEITY DWELLS BODILY, AND YOU HAVE BEEN FILLED IN HIM, WHO IS THE HEAD OF ALL RULE AND AUTHORITY.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-10



Did you hear what Paul said Christians should do in verse 6? He said a person who has chosen to trust Jesus as their Savior should also follow Jesus!

When we commit our lives to Jesus, we commit to following Him. Talking to God, reading the Bible and following His commandments help us stay close to Him. When we are close to God, sneaky people won't be able to lead us away from Jesus. God's truth shows us their lies.

Just like the walking path, there will be many things in life begging for you to follow them. Some people will try to lead you away from Jesus and tell you to follow fake gods. Stay close to Jesus so you won't be misled. He wants what's best for you. He will never lead you down the wrong path.

JESUS IS ABOVE ALL.



GOD'S BIG STORY

CREATION



EVERYTHING
GOD CREATED
WAS GOOD.

FALL



ADAM & EVE SINNED,
AND SIN PASSED TO
ALL PEOPLE, EVEN
YOU AND ME.



REDEMPTION

THOUGH ALL OF
US ARE SINNERS,
CHRIST DIED
FOR US.

RESTORATION



JESUS WILL
COME AGAIN.

FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: * COLOSSIANS *

This week's story comes from the book of Colossians. Colossians is an epistle, or letter. This letter lists both Paul and Timothy as its authors. It was written to Christians in Colossae, and it stresses Christ's power over all things.

JOURNAL

Ask a friend or family member for a time-tested cookie recipe they can share with you. Copy the recipe (including where it came from) into your journal. Baking cookies requires us to closely follow a recipe, just like living life for Jesus requires us to closely follow Him.

Don't forget to follow the recipe and make the cookies!

OT-NT CONNECTION

This wasn't the first time false teachers tried to distract followers of God. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were distracted by prophets of a false God called Baal. Read **1 Kings 18:20-40** to learn more.

- What did the people say in verse 39 when they realized the God of Israel was the one true God?
- Why is it important to stay close to Jesus as we journey through life on Earth?

IF I SHOULD ONLY FOLLOW JESUS, DOES THAT MEAN I DON'T NEED TO OBEY MY PARENTS?

Following Jesus means you should obey your parents! (Ephesians 6:1) The Bible tells us to respect authority. (Romans 13) However, if someone asks you to do something you know God says is wrong, choose to respectfully follow Jesus instead. God's ways are above all.

BUT WHAT IF PEOPLE FROM OTHER RELIGIONS DO GOOD THINGS? ARE THEIR RELIGIONS STILL WRONG?

While Jesus came to Earth as a baby in the New Testament, Jesus is part of the Trinity. He has always existed! John 1:1-3 talks about Jesus (the Word) becoming man, and that Jesus is God. God has always existed. Check out this week's OT-NT Connection for more information.

READ



Take a moment to read the entire second chapter of Colossians.

The false teachers distracting the Colossians were not living for Jesus. Instead, they sought to pull people away from Him.

What's something in today's world that fights for your attention and could distract you from following Jesus?

★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF AUGUST 13, 2023

♥ MEMORIZE

**THEREFORE, AS
YOU RECEIVED
CHRIST JESUS
THE LORD, SO
WALK IN HIM.**

(COLOSSIANS 2:6)

**Q: AS A CHRISTIAN,
WHO DO I FOLLOW?**

A: JESUS CHRIST!

CRAFT

Ask your child to think of things that can distract people from following Jesus.

Help them look those things up and print pictures of them. Cut out the pictures and use them to make a collage at the bottom of a piece of paper. At the top of the paper, write, "I will follow Jesus." Remind your child that many things on Earth will fight for our attention, but we should only follow Jesus.

SHARE

Tell your kids about a time you prioritized following something or someone above following Jesus. What happened? What did you learn?

WATCH



Help your child learn their verse by watching this week's Memory Melody video!

PRAY

DEAR LORD, THIS WORLD IS FULL OF WORLDLY THINGS THAT WANT TO DISTRACT ME FROM YOU. PLEASE HELP ME TO STAY FOCUSED ON FOLLOWING JESUS. HELP ME TO PUT HIM FIRST ABOVE ANYTHING ELSE. AMEN.

FIND

This week's verse is found in the book of Colossians. Help your child find the book of Colossians. Is this book in the Old or New Testament? How many chapters are there?

BAKE

Find a recipe and ask your child to help you follow the instructions to make a culinary masterpiece!

The Bible, God's word, is the recipe for life! It tells us to only follow Jesus.

PLAY

Make a list of specific instructions that tell your child how to get the mail. Help them complete the instructions as you wrote them. (Have fun with this! For example, instead of "Walk to the mailbox," you could write "Hop on one leg to the door and open the mailbox with a big smile on your face.")

Remind your child that the Bible gives us specific instructions on how to walk through life. It tells us Jesus is the only God we should follow.

SING



Listen to this playlist and worship Jesus Christ, Who is above all!

**SCAN HERE TO LISTEN
WHEREVER YOU ARE!**



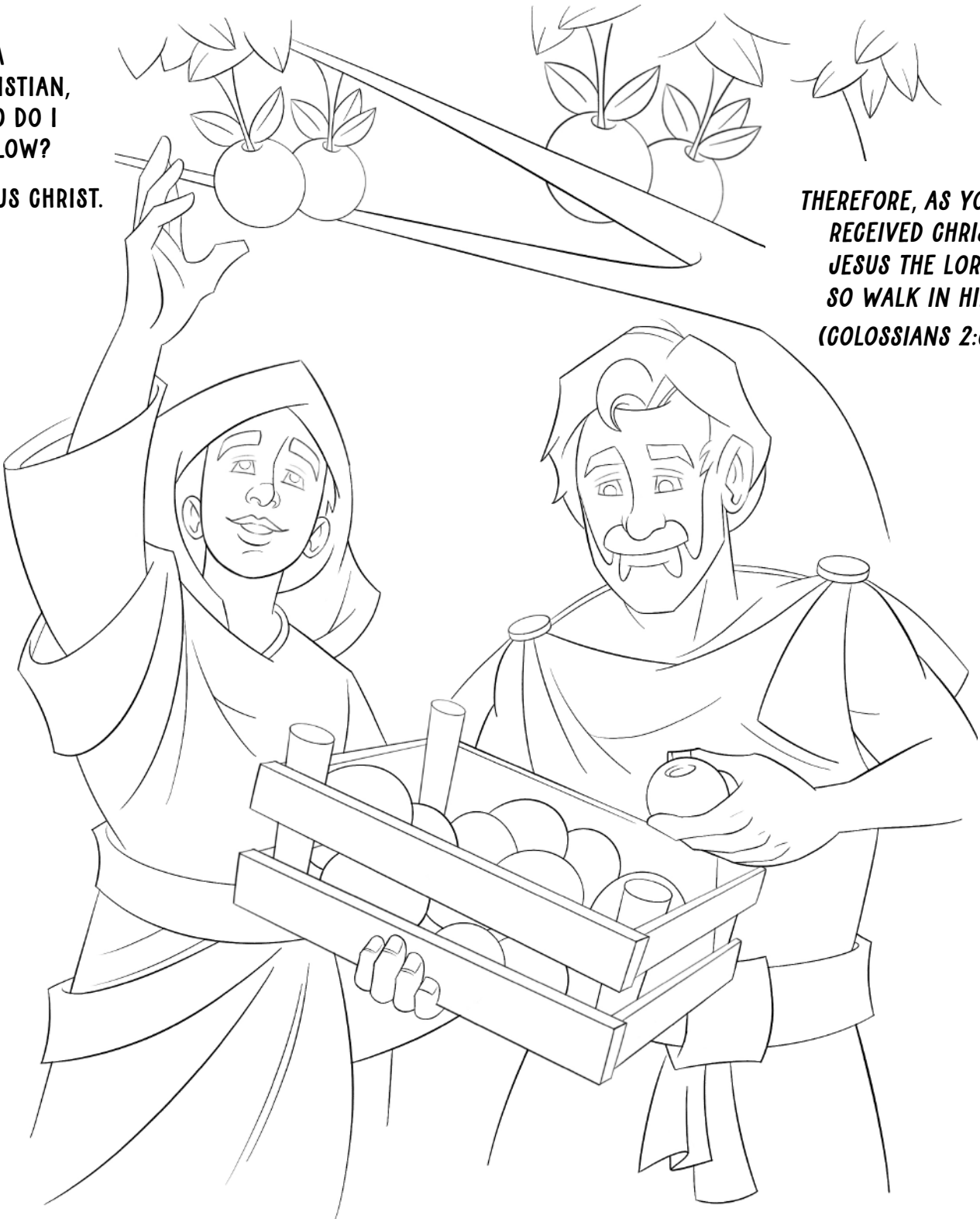
COLORING PAGE

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WHO DO I
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JESUS CHRIST.

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SO WALK IN HIM.
(COLOSSIANS 2:6)*



NAME: _____