MORE TO EXPLORE WEEK OF AUGUST 13, 2023



FIND IT IN THE BIBLE:

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.



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?

