

# \* MORE TO EXPLORE

WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 2023

## 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

Grab a pillow, blanket, pen and your journal and find a quiet spot for reflection. Think about what you've learned about setting your mind on things above. Are there any areas in your life where you are struggling with this? Write a prayer in your journal asking God to help you focus on Jesus and eternal things.

### OT-NT CONNECTION

In Colossians 3:3, Paul says a Christian's life is hidden (or kept safe) with Christ. The words he uses here are found in the Old Testament. Look up **Psalms 27:5**.

- What does David say the Lord will do for him in this verse?
- How do you feel knowing a Christian's eternity is secured in Christ?

### DOES SETTING MY MIND ON THINGS ABOVE MEAN I SHOULD NOT ENJOY ANYTHING ON EARTH?

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.

### SINCE I'M SAVED, WHY DO I STILL STRUGGLE WITH SIN?

While sin no longer controls us as believers (Romans 6:13-14), we still live in a fallen world where sin tempts us. We will mess up now and then until we reach heaven. Thankfully, as Christians, we can ask God to set our minds on things above. Jesus will give us the power to say no to sin!

### READ



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

Make a list of the things God's chosen ones (Christians) should put on (have). These are found in verses 12-14.