



Unrelenting Roots, Randy Larson January 17 and 20

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE

Col. 2:1

I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. ² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. ⁵ For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. ⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Randy mentioned that reading letters like the book of Colossians can be difficult because we are only hearing one side of a conversation. What questions can we ask ourselves to piece together the clues and find timeless truths found in these letters?
2. Groups in the first century as well as today, attempt to hijack the good news of Jesus for their own agendas. In what ways have you seen this happen? Why is this so dangerous? Why would this be concerning to the Apostle Paul? Why should this be concerning for us?
3. A healthy root system provides nourishment, strength and resilience to a plant. In what ways can a person be firmly rooted in Christ beyond church attendance?
4. A plant with an unrelenting root system can withstand drought, severe weather and "Black thumb" homeowners with power tools. In what ways is a life firmly rooted in Christ similar?
5. What are some areas of your life (friendships, neighborhood, prayer life, bible study, service, marriage, parenting, thoughts, etc..) that aren't rooted in Christ, that you would like to develop?