

Colossians 1:24-2:15

Walk in Christ Jesus Our Lord

- **Why would we rejoice in our sufferings or hard times?**
- **Do you want to make the Word of God fully known? Do you share the Good News? Do you pray for others to be saved?**
- **Would you consider yourself a mature Christian? What is a mature Christian? Do you like to study the Word of God? Do you strive to obey the Word of God? Do you strive to teach and model the Word of God for others? Do you help others to mature in Christ? Why is it important to study God's Word and know God's Word?**

Vs 24-29 We can rejoice in our suffering for a few reasons

- 1. God has a plan and He is helping us and growing us**
- 2. Oftentimes we look to God the most in hard times**
- 3. God prunes those that He loves**
- 4. God is just and will avenge and justly judge all evil and wickedness**

Deuteronomy 8:5 *Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you.*

John 15:1-2 *I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.*

Romans 5:4-6 *we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.*

God calls us to live for Him and minister to others. Our goal is to make Jesus known!

2 Corinthians 5:20 *Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

To be fully and truly rich, we need Christ in us! This is what we are created for. We are to give glory to God and make disciples of Christ!

When we share the Gospel, it is both a warning and a good news.

- 1. All have sinned and will be held accountable for their sin by a just God.**
- 2. God knew we would sin and had a plan for a Savior in Jesus.**
- 3. Either we are accountable for our own sin or Jesus will pay our sin debt**

A Christian's goal is not to just know Christ as their Savior. A Christian should strive to know Jesus, know the Word of God, live for God, and help others to know Jesus.

2:1-5 God gives His people a heart for others. We should not only desire that people get saved and grow in their walk with Christ. We should help them work toward this.

God wants us to feel His love and the love of others teaching us about Jesus and modeling the Christian life in deep relationship with us.

Is your faith firm, obedient, quick to repent, and impacting others, or is your faith squishy and inconsistent?

Vs 6-15 Our walk with Jesus should have 4 parts:

- 1. We should be rooted in Christ (He is our deep and strong foundation in life)**
- 2. We should be built up in Jesus (we should be shaped and formed by Him)**
- 3. We should be established in the faith by our walk with Jesus (mature)**
- 4. Knowing how faith in Jesus is a strong base, he builds us up, he establishes us, we should live with joy and thankfulness to Jesus.**

These traits will help the world or wicked people to not lead us astray.

When Christ is our Lord, both men and women are circumcised in Him because the wicked parts and sinful parts are cut off because we are a new creation in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

When we have faith in Jesus as our Lord, we are raised into a new life with God. A symbol of our death, burial, and resurrection is baptism. We will live for eternity with Jesus.

If Jesus is your Lord, and you repent of your sins, your sin debt has been paid in full!

- 1. Do you trust Jesus when life is hard, knowing you are saved, safe, and going to heaven?**
- 2. Is it a priority for you to be a disciple of Christ who makes disciples of Christ?**
- 3. Who are you impacting for God?**
- 4. God does not just want you to be saved. He wants you to be a mature follower of Christ who lives obediently and impacts others. Do you look like this? If not, ask God to help you right now.**