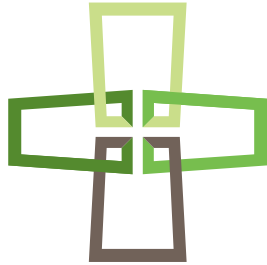


Prayer Guide

Colossians 2:9-15



BRIARCLIFF CHURCH

It is often easy to forget what someone has done for us. That is especially true when it comes to what Jesus has done for us. We lose sight of the magnitude of his sacrifice for us and the depth of our depravity.

Paul felt it was necessary to remind the people at Colossae and their neighbors at Laodicea of the complete redemptive work of Jesus. Apparently there was teaching (philosophies) being taught that Jesus' teachings and work were in themselves not sufficient for salvation. They were teaching people to accept the system of astrology, the Jewish practice of circumcision, the rules and regulations of ascetics and the practice of worshiping angels.

Still today there are groups of Christians that want to add on additional works to the grace of God demonstrated by the cross of Jesus. We must never falter by making our faith a religion rather than a personal relationship with Jesus. Manmade traditions can become more important than the truth of the gospel.

The best way to guard against false philosophies is to remain focused on the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. That is what Paul is doing in this letter, refocusing the people on the truth of Jesus. Read and reflect on each verse; then respond in prayer. This prayer guide gives examples of you might respond in prayer. Let each response guide you in your own personal respond to the scriptures.

DAY ONE

Colossians 2:9-10 (NLT) For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.

- Lord, I am so grateful Jesus is more than just a man, *for in Christ lives all the fullness of God* and I can know you personally.
- Thank you for making me *complete through my union with Christ*.
- You are the head over every ruler and authority and my desire is for you to be the head of my life also.
- I worship you, Almighty God, there is none like you.

DAY TWO

Colossians 2:11 (NLT) When you came to Christ, you were “circumcised,” but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision—the cutting away of your sinful nature.

- I am grateful for your drawing me to come to Christ and live in union with him.
- Thank you for completely cutting away all my sin through your death on the cross and resurrection from the grave.
- Help me daily by your Spirit that lives in me to win over my *sinful nature*.
- I bow before you and give you thanks for your redemptive work in my life.

DAY THREE

Colossians 2:12 (NLT) For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.

- Thank you for the baptizing work of your Spirit that buried my old life of sin.
- I am grateful for the experience of water baptism that publically demonstrated the baptizing work of your Spirit.
- Lord, I pray for my unchurched friends (write their names here) that you will convict them of their need of your mighty power to save.
- Thank you for the hope we have in your resurrected life.

DAY FOUR

Colossians 2:13 (NLT) You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.

- Help my unchurched friends (list their names) understand that they are dead in their sins and separated from God.
- Lead me to live beyond the rule of my sinful nature the lurks within me.
- Guide me to live each day in the fullness of the new resurrected live you have given me.
- I confess my sins and lay them before you (list any sin you need to confess).

DAY FIVE

Colossians 2:14-15 (NLT) He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

- Never let me forget that you *canceled the record of the charges against* me.
- Keep me mindful of the price you paid for my sin by being nailed to the cross in my place.
- Thank you that you have disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities and I need not fear.
- Lord, I am glad to be on the winning side of your victory on the cross.