



COLOSSIANS 2:8-15 WEEK 3

ENGAGE YOUR SOUL (YOUR MIND, WILL AND EMOTIONS) IN THE FOLLOWING EXERCISES THIS WEEK

Our focus this first week is Colossians 2:12-13... Resurrected in Him

1. Introduction and Warmup

Read and Copy Colossians 2:12-13 in at least 3 Bible translations. Note the differences and answer the following:

- Do the variations in how these verses are expressed raise questions for me? If so, pray and ask God to bring clarity.
- Do the variations of expression help me understand and take in the Truth of these verses in a greater way? How so?

*Various translations can be accessed at www.biblegateway.com

2. Memorize

Memorize Colossians 2:12-13. Start now and add on sections throughout the week. As you make progress, add in the verses you memorized from Weeks 1 and 2. *Helpful tips for memorizing are available on our website www.establishedfootsteps.com

3. “buried with Him in baptism”

Colossians 2:12-13 says that we were *“buried with Him in baptism”*. As Christians we are called to be baptized. I believe God called us to this experience as a gift. He gave it as a moment we could tangibly mark and remember... an outward expression of Him resurrecting us in our inner man through faith. As Christ physically died, was put in a grave and then resurrected, we too by faith in Him also experience death and resurrection... being dead in our sins we are buried under the water, and then in His power we are raised up to new life in Christ. So, consider your own baptism experience...

- Have you been baptized? If not, make a plan to be baptized!
- Recall your baptism... perhaps if you were young like me, you may not have had much understanding of what you were experiencing. Spend a few moments recalling the experience... what it meant then and now means to you.

4. Connect

When Jesus was on the earth, He raised several people from the dead and one of them was Lazarus. Read the story of Lazarus in John 11:1-45, specifically focusing on verses 38-45, and then answer the following in your journal:

- How do the details of Lazarus’ physical resurrection connect to your spiritual resurrection?
- How do the details of Lazarus’ physical resurrection connect to the way your spiritual resurrection is described in Colossians 2:12-13?

5. Response

The imagery in the gift of baptism is the imagery of being dead/alive. Sometimes we don’t think of ourselves as having been *“dead”* in sin, but that is exactly what we were! Knowing that, complete the following:

- Consider how would you respond if you physically died and Jesus brought you back to life? Journal your thoughts.
- Compare that response to your response in faith to the spiritual resurrection from the dead that you have been given in Christ? Journal your thoughts.
- Think about what could have been written on your spiritual tombstone? And what could be the headline announcing your resurrection. Journal your thoughts.
- Respond to the Lord by journaling a prayer of thankfulness for resurrecting you from the dead!

6. Use the Scripture Prayer Image to begin a conversation with God about Colossians 2:12-13.