

20 February

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Book of Colossians – week 6

 Let's hear your story

1. What were some of the questions believers were challenged with in v.16? (**Questions of food, drink, festival, new moon and the sabbath.**)
2. What was Jesus' answer when asked about what defiles a person in Mark 7:15 - 23? (**v.19b; Thus, He declared all foods clean.**)
3. What were the two false teachings in v.18? (**Insisting on asceticism (false humility) and worship of angels.**)
4. What is eternal life according to John 17:3? (**Knowing God and Jesus Christ.**)

 Let's go deeper

5. When does eternal life begin according to 1 John 5:11 – 12? (**When we receive the Son (Jesus Christ) into our lives.**)
6. What kind of life did Jesus come to give us in John 10:10? (**Abundant life.**)
7. Explain in your own words the qualities of an abundant life? (**It would be the opposite of what Jesus said the thief came to do.**)
8. Is it clear to you that eternal life is not only a length of time (eternity), but a quality and quantity of life? (**Yes.**)

 Let's apply this

9. John 17:3; And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

- Ask God to make Himself known to you this week.
- Open your heart to receive from God this week.
- When studying the Word of God, ask Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to you in the scriptures.
- As God reveals Himself to you, share it with a family member or a friend.

SUMMARY:

- **Colossians: Week 6 (Relationship with Jesus)**

Read: Colossians 2:16 – 23

v.16 – 17; False teachers infiltrated the church and are pulling believers back to the law and promoting self-made human religion and rules.

What did Jesus say about food and drink that enters the body? See Mark 7:15 – 23

What sacrifices did the law require at a new moon? See Numbers 28:11 – 15.

Jesus fulfilled the law perfectly – see Matthew 5:17; Luke 24:44 and Hebrews 10:1.

v.18 – 19; The answer to both of these false teachings is a relationship with Jesus, and exalting Him above angels, and realizing that because of His finished work on the cross there is nothing for us to take pride in.

v.20 – 23; Self-made religion is man reaching to God, trying to justify himself by keeping a list of rules. Christianity is God reaching down to man in love through Christ. Self-made religion and rules have no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. Only a living relationship with Jesus.

The purpose of the Gospel is eternal life – See John 3:16.

Eternal life is just what Jesus said in John 17:3; to know God and Jesus Christ. This word “know” describes the most intimate, personal relationship that you can have. The real purpose of salvation is not living forever in heaven, as great as that will be. The real purpose of salvation is to have intimacy a personal relationship with Jesus. There are many people who have cried out to God for the forgiveness of their sins, but have never had intimacy with God. Jesus not only came to give us eternal life, He came to deliver us from this present evil world – see Galatians 1:3 – 4.

Jesus wants to give us a quality of life that is greater than anything we could obtain through any other source. Jesus put it this way in **John 10:10;** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

God wants to give you eternal life and abundant life. Christ died not only to forgive your sins, but to bring you close to Him.

Eternal life is not only a length of time (eternity), but a quality of life.

1 John 5:12 – 13; Whoever has **the Son has life;** whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, **that you may know that you have eternal life.**