



## SDG Discussion Guide

Colossians 2:16-23

November 8, 2020

### Guideline:

Before you begin, pray. Ask God to enlighten you to show you where he has been at work and present in your past week through events, places, and people. Ask Him to enliven and guide your group in your reading and discussion.

Next, read aloud and slowly **Colossians 2:16-23**. As you can take turns and read aloud these verses again, this time from a different bible translation.

### For starters:

Recall a time a goal or your plans were compelling enough to cause you to suffer for it. What helped you to keep going?

How would you finish the following sentence? "I would feel fulfilled if..."

See the following questions that may assist you in your discussion of the Scripture.

1. What is a point or two that stayed with you from the message this past Sunday, November 8, "Lessons in Faith from a Dying Lake Part 4"?
2. What immediately stands out to you in the passage? Does anything in this passage particularly confuse you, encourage you, or convict you?
3. What "shadows" were the Colossians adding to the "reality" they had found in Christ (vv 16-17, 20-23)?
4. What is the result of trying to base one's relationship with God on rule-keeping or on private visions, as false teachers were doing?
5. Paul must care for the Colossian Christians because the language he uses of those who are upsetting them is quite harsh. Look closely at verse 18b and 19. What four ways does Paul use to describe someone who is into asceticism, angels, and visions? If these things won't help people grow spiritually, what will (v 19)?
6. Have you ever felt judged in the way the passage describes, and if so, what was it over? Have you ever judged someone in the way the passage describes? What is it in people (and in us) that causes us to judge others based on external forms of religious observance (behaviors, attendance at certain events, lifestyle, etc.)?
7. Ultimately, our lives in Christ are not simply about a set of "do" and "do not" rules. What is the real, impacting message from this passage about being in Christ?

Allow your prayer to arise out of your conviction around the fact that you are complete in Christ.