

Colossians: Working at it

Colossians 2:16-23

Pitfalls that people get caught up in trying to add more to Christ.

Legalism

Colossians 2:16-17; Hebrews 10:24-25; Mark 7:18; Mark 7:20-23

Mysticism

Colossians 2:18-23

Asceticism

Colossians 2:20-23

Considerations for the week

Consider the ideas of legalism, mysticism, and asceticism. What aspects of each seem OK or not OK? Why might these philosophies have gained followers?

In civil matters, we make laws for the benefit of society, to define how bad is too bad and deserving of punishment. Explore some man-made religious regulations and reasons why they are made and applied. How might following these man-made regulations deceive the believer? See Colossians 2:23.

The apostle Paul famously received a vision from God on the road to Damascus. Here, he describes reported vision experiences as not of God. Discuss how they are distinguished from the real-deal and why the people involved are considered unspiritual and puffed up. Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-9; 1 John 4:1-3; Revelation 1:1-3, 9-20.

The Jews had a highly developed doctrine of angels, and the Gnostics believed in all kinds of intermediaries which they worshipped. Do you see parallels in Christianity today? Or influences of asceticism or of legalism?

What should we do when we hear someone describing an experience of theirs which they report as a vision from God?

Please use these considerations for personal reflection, small group discussions, and with friends and family.



For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

– Colossians 2:9-10, ESV

Scripture read today during worship:

Ephesians 4:1-6

Hebrews 13:15-16

Prayer today

Members will be praying for us during the service today and also during the week. Please email us at prayer@rtbchurch.org to let us know how we may pray for you.

Rice Temple Baptist Church

Today's order of service

Prelude, *Oh My Soul*

Welcome

Annie Armstrong presentation

Call to Worship

Greeting one another

Hymn 406, *My Hope Is in the Lord*

Hymn, *Only a God Like You*

Hymn, *Living Hope*

Offertory

Reading

Hymn, *Before the Throne of God Above*

Message

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Hymn of response, *The Power of Your Love*

Benediction

Postlude, *You Never Let Go*

Weekly events

Today after benediction, Cookies & Coffee, in parlor

Young adults fellowship, Monday at 6:45pm. Dinner and discussion for those in college or starting careers

Mom's Day Out, Tuesday and Friday, 9am – 2pm
pre-registration required

Women's Bible study, Tues. at 10 am or Thurs. at 7 pm

Wednesday

Kids' Music Class, 5-6 pm

Dinner served, 5:30-6:30 pm. Menu: Swedish
meatballs, mashed potatoes, veggies, salad, cake

Prayer, 6:30 pm in the prayer room

BLAST! Children's Bible study and fun, 5:30 pm

Ladies' international Bible class (Zoom), 6:45 pm

Sermon discussion on Zoom, 7 pm

Choir rehearsal, 7:45 pm

Joy Program, Thursday, 9am-noon, conversational

English classes, Bible study, crafts, and handbells

Young internationals Bible study, Saturday at 7 pm

Men's Bible study, every-other Saturday at 8 am

Meets next week, April 19

Sunday morning

Adult Bible study, 9:30 am

Worship, 10:45 am

Children's Church at sermon time

The church office has information on events.

Phone: 713.559.6875 Email: office@rtbchurch.org

The office is open Tuesday - Friday, 9am-4pm

Christ in the Passover

Presented here by Jews for Jesus
Monday, April 14, 6:30 pm

Redeeming the Realities of Marriage

Three sessions will be held here:

Saturday, May 3, 9am - 3pm

Friday, May 9, 7-9:30 pm

Saturday, May 10, 9am - 3pm

rtbc
online giving



Hermann Park Outreach

The event is being rescheduled.

Contact the office for details.