

DISCUSS

Louie walked through the text using four phrases: follow up, foundation, fullness, and finished work. Each coordinates with certain verses. Follow up is first with verses 6 and 7.

Read Colossians 2:6–7

If we have received Christ by grace through faith, what does that say about what it means to live in Him? (It means we should continue to follow Him by grace through faith.)

Paul urges the Colossians to “live your lives” in Jesus. He uses that phrase often in his books to mean that Christians should continue to walk in their faith. Louie described it as “follow up.” We continue to keep in step with Jesus after choosing to follow Him, all by His grace through faith. **What does it look like to live your life in—or to follow—Jesus? What is different about your actions, thoughts, or attitudes?**

Louie talked about how consistent growth as a Christian is more about what is unseen than what is seen. Verse 7 talks about being rooted and built up in Him. The hidden things we do are what mature us as His followers. **What sorts of hidden, beneath-the-surface things have helped you grow in your faith?** (Some answers might include: personal Bible study, prayer, giving in secret, singing worship songs during commutes, fasting, etc.)

In verse 7, Paul tells the Colossians to be strengthened in their faith. He mentions giving thanks as a characteristic of strong faith. **What sorts of spiritual disciplines strengthen your faith? In what ways has thanksgiving bolstered your walk with Jesus?**

Being thankful to God reminds us of what He’s done for us and who He is. Reflecting on these things, especially in community, can encourage each of us in our faith. **What’s one thing you’re thankful for this week?**

Louie’s next word ties into this idea of developing deep roots in Jesus and His gospel—it’s the word “foundation.”

Read verse 8.

Lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines for student responses.

GO DEEPER

Learn more about the significance of circumcision in the following verses: Gen. 17:9–14; Rom. 2:25–29

What did circumcision mean for the Israelites? (It was an external sign of that they were part of the covenant people of God.)

According to the Romans passage, what was the spiritual significance of circumcision?

What does it mean to have a heart circumcised by God? (It means to have a heart that is surrendered, obedient, and glorifying to God.)

When Paul talks about Jesus circumcising our hearts, he’s using a relevant image the Jewish people recognized to explain a spiritual reality. Jesus has removed everything that kept us from being obedient to God. We can now enjoy being His covenant people because He made a way for us to be with Him.

These verses show how God is the one who secured our salvation through His actions alone. We can’t add to it. Paul uses circumcision to explain his point. Circumcision was an external sign of the covenant Israel had with God. But the circumcision Paul talks about in verse 11 is not a physical but a spiritual circumcision. Our flesh, which used to rule us, has been taken off by Jesus. **How would you describe life in the flesh? What was your life like before Jesus?**

Lined writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines for taking notes.

