



Lesson Aim: To grow in our understanding of what it means to obey and serve Christ out of a love relationship instead of a need to prove our self-worth.



connecting

Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on summer break**. We will continue to offer study questions each week in this **simplified format**, which can be useful for personal devotions and/or discussion starters for LifeGroups that choose to meet for a portion of the summer break.

Prayer: Start your time together by asking the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion or devotional time.



growing

1. **Read Colossians 2:16-23.** What is the result of trying to base our relationship with God on rule keeping or private visions, as the false teachers were doing?
2. What additions to faith in Christ have you encountered from people who try to encourage you to be “more spiritual”?
3. In what areas are you susceptible to get caught up in rule-keeping?
4. **Read Ephesians 1:1-14.** In your own words, describe the “blessings in Christ” that are listed in these verses. What do they mean to you personally?



sewing

5. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21.** What motivation does Paul give for living for Christ and sharing our faith? What inhibits you? How can you grow in being motivated in the same way Paul was?



reaching

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

Colossians 2:16-23 – Nothing to Prove

6.17.12

When we believe we have to prove our worth to God and others...

- There is a tendency to obsessively focus on what we do rather than on what Christ has done. (verses 16-17)
- We can become spiritually arrogant and disconnected from Jesus. (verses 18-19)
- We waste time on things that don't matter and we fail to experience a change of heart. (verses 20-23)

Am I free to serve God and others out of growing understanding of Christ's grace and love for me? (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Ephesians 1:4-7; 1 John 3:1)

Just for the dads: Am I free to serve and lead my family out of a growing understanding of Christ's grace and love for me?