

FINDING FULLNESS Pt 2

“Life at the Center”

REVIEW

We will be formed into the image of what it is that we love.

Colossians 1:9-20 NIV

9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, t 10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, 12 and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have **redemption**, the forgiveness of sins.

15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to **reconcile** to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

"I believe that the world was created and approved by love, that it subsists, coheres, and endures by love, and that, insofar as it is redeemable, it can be redeemed only by love. I believe that divine love, incarnate and indwelling in the world, summons the world always toward wholeness, which ultimately is reconciliation and atonement with God."
(Wendell Berry)

THE LIFE YOU WANT

What threatens the life we are longing for?

Romans 3:23-24 NIV

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and all are justified freely by his grace through the **redemption** that came by Christ Jesus.

DEFINITION OF SIN:

Sin is depending upon anything or trusting anything other than God as the source of identity, sufficiency, and life.

- Sin divides.
- Sin deceives.

RECONCILIATION & FORGIVENESS

- Reconciliation is the Result of Forgiveness.
- Reconciliation is the Experience of Fullness.

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

This is why we need WISDOM!

Col 2:2-3 NIV

2 My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

ABSTINENCE UNTIL LICENSE

“Will freedom in this area lead to license in other areas? If this decision was made as an accommodation to culture, then that should be a serious concern. But if it has been made as a step of faith, then it’s just another step on a steep climb with many obstacles and hazards. Hardly a smooth run to the bottom. As we get better at fixing our eyes on Jesus, seeing reality as he sees it, wanting what he wants, and doing what he does, God can trust us with more freedom.”

-Rick Shafer

Romans 14:22-23 NIV

22 So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves. 23 But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and **everything that does not come from faith is sin.**

DISCERNMENT

The application of wisdom is discernment.

In Christ, you can discern what to do in the life that you actually live to find the life that you actually want.