

# Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for May 19, 2024

## Sermon Notes

### **Avoiding Spiritual Shipwreck** **Colossians 2:6-7**

Last week we kicked off a study through 1 Timothy with a look at chapter 1 of Paul's letter to his young son in the faith. Paul's tone in that first chapter is one of urgency, as he exhorts Timothy from the very beginning concerning the high calling of stewarding the gospel. It is clear that Paul does not take that stewardship lightly, as he urges Timothy to "charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine" (v. 3). He highlights the danger of doctrinal drift by mentioning that "some have made shipwreck of their faith" (v. 19). Today, as we celebrate Graduate Sunday, we're going to step away from our study in 1 Timothy to consider some of Paul's words in his letter to the Colossians. Although they are continuing in their "good order and the firmness of [their] faith in Christ" (2:5), deceptive false doctrines are swirling around the church, and threaten to bring spiritual shipwreck to those in that congregation as well. So, how do we guard against spiritual shipwreck? Well, that is what Paul's letter to the Colossians is all about! And in 2:6-7 we see an important hinge statement in the letter that summarizes the answer, offering us 5 word pictures that help us set our minds and hearts on the objective of spiritual maturity.

"Therefore..." (Setting the context)

Word Picture #1: *Walk*

Word Picture #2: *Rooted*

Word Picture #3: *Built Up*

Word Picture #4: *Established*

Word Picture # 5: *Abounding*

## Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*  
*teaching* and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom*..."

- *Colossians 3:16a*

### Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

### Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

### Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor  
**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor  
**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship

**Yvonne Hager:** Executive Assistant

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#### MAY

23 Blood Drive - 10:30am-3pm  
26 Communion & Pastor Hodges' Bday  
27 Memorial Day - Church Office Closed

#### JUNE

1-8 Utah Mission Trip  
5 Life Together  
9 Churchwide Family Picnic  
16 Family Dedication  
19 Member's Meeting  
23 Communion  
30 Celebration for Gerald & Susan