

Discussion Guide

A Refreshing Look at Christianity
October 25, 2026

PART 1: RECAP. HAVE SOMEONE READ THIS OUT LOUD.

We spent last week looking at how Jesus paid our debts and how we should live in light of what he has done for us. As a church, we were able to partner with Undue Medical Debt to help wholly and completely forgive bad medical debt throughout the state of Idaho; this was a tangible act of love to help others get a glimpse at what the forgiveness of Christ looks like. This week, our passage in Colossians focuses on the dangers of legalism, mysticism, and subjectivism.

- Would you consider yourself a rule follower or a rule breaker?
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PART 2: HAVE SOMEONE READ COLOSSIANS 2:16-23 OUT LOUD. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AS A GROUP.

- Read Colossians 2:9-13. What experiences does the believer share with Christ? What implications are drawn from this? (vv. 16-17, 20-23)
 - What is the result of trying to base your relationship with God on rule-keeping or private visions, like the false teachers in Colossae?
 - Why is legalism so attractive to some believers?
 - What are the dangers of subjectivism?
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PART 3: REFLECT. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS TOGETHER.

- Are there "unwritten rules" or extra-biblical traditions that you feel pressured to follow to look like a "good Christian"?
 - Do you find yourself judging other believers who do not practice their faith in the exact same way as you? How can we discern what topics are necessary to agree on and which we can hold space for different opinions?
 - Out of the three areas that Paul addresses - legalism, mysticism, and subjectivism - which do you find most difficult for you personally in your own faith walk? How can you help one another guard against these tendencies and keep Jesus at the center of your faith?
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KEY VERSE:

Colossians 2:18-19

Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding fast to the Head.

NEXT STEPS:

- With Christ's help, I will relinquish a judgmental spirit towards _____.
- I need to hold fast to Christ who is Head of the Church
- I understand that God is calling us to be united and to grow together in Christ

