



home groups

Discussion Guide



He Gives Us New Freedom

Colossians 2:16-23

Ice Breaker

(10 minutes)

Discuss

- Barry and Lindsey both mentioned Independence Day. What's your favorite July 4th tradition?
 - What are your plans for this year's Independence Day? Should you go ahead and plan a Home Group July 4 party? Consider using that opportunity to bless a neighbor.
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Lesson Review

(35 minutes)

Read Colossians 2:13-23

Barry said our deepest problem is not that we aren't enough; it's believing that we are enough, and trying to live the Christian life out of our own strength. He asked us to turn to one another in the worship service and say, "You're not enough."

Discuss

- How did that go? Did the person next to you say those words? How did it feel?
- What does it say about us that this was difficult to do?

Barry described something he called the "tyranny of enough." He told about a young man he counseled who was very disciplined, but unable to overcome persistent patterns of sin. His message to that young man was that effort alone would never be enough to win his freedom from sin.

The Tyranny Of Enough Says "Try Harder"

In verses 16 and 17, Paul is saying that our religious activities are not an end to themselves. If we engage in spiritual practices to "be enough" we're missing the point.

Discuss

- Paul listed things like religious festivals and new moon celebrations. What's the modern equivalent for us? What religious practices do we engage that are shadows of the deeper truth?

The Tyranny Of Enough Says "Fake It"

In verses 18 and 19, Paul describes people who pursue misguided spiritual experiences or "secret knowledge." They want to appear more spiritual, wise, or mature than they actually are.

Discuss

- What's the modern equivalent? How do Christians fall into false humility and idle notions?

The Tyranny Of Enough Says “Don’t Screw Up”

In verses 20-23, Paul describes some of the legalism that must have accompanied the Colossians Heresy. It involved lots of rule-following and “self-imposed worship.” The ESV calls it “self-made religion.”

Discuss

- What’s the modern equivalent? How does the modern church slip into legalism?
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Application

(15 minutes)

Remember the video testimony from Lindsey. You can watch it again here:

<https://youtu.be/jNJL-g752EU>

Discuss

- Have you ever felt like Lindsey? Fill in the blank: “I felt like I wasn’t _____ enough.”
- We all feel that way some times. How would you describe a healthy, Godly response to those whispers?

