

# GENESIS

begin. belong. believe.

## 'Alive'

(part V of 'Colossians' – 8/05/12)

### Big idea

If you have a relationship with Jesus, life will look radically different – not could or should look differently, but will look different? As we've already learned, Jesus is the image of the invisible God ([Col 1:15](#)) in whom the fullness of God dwells in bodily form ([Col 2:9-10](#)). In other words, because Jesus is God in flesh, and Jesus dwells by His Spirit in those who believe ([Col 1:27](#)), our lives will look different. As we turn to Colossians 2:11-23, we learn afresh three ways that Jesus will make a difference in the life of one who believes:

- Jesus is our transformation – [Colossians 2:11-12](#)
- Jesus is the One who makes us alive – [Colossians 2:13-15](#)
- Jesus is the One we follow – [Colossians 2:16-23](#)

### Discussion Questions

1. What difference is Jesus making in your life? Share some practical ways in which you see Jesus making a difference in how you live, think, relate with others, etc.
2. Jesus is our transformation – we cannot transform ourselves. The Apostle Paul says that when we come to believe in Jesus, a circumcision, or cutting away of our sinful nature takes place. Baptism is another picture that Paul uses to illustrate what happens when we come to Christ – we are dead in our sin (going down), but just as Christ was raised back to life, we too are raised back to newness of life (coming up) – consider [Romans 6:1-4](#). If our sinful nature has been cut away by Christ, and we have been raised in Christ to newness of life, then why do we continue in the path of sin? What are some practical ways in which we can grow in living the transformed life that Jesus has secured for us?
3. The amazing news of the gospel is this: when we were dead in our sins, God made us alive, forgiving us ALL of our sins! This might not be new news, but when you hear this, **is it amazing news?** Meaning, is the news of what God has done in Christ, that He has made you alive (all sins forgiven) changing how you live for God? What are some practical ways in which the amazing news of what God has done for us in Christ reshape how we live in relation to God and those around us?
4. Is the knowledge that Jesus paid it all – meaning, all sins forgiven and paid for on the cross leading you to hate sin – not just sin in the world, but our sin? How does knowing that our sins have been forgiven lead us to sin less and less?
5. It's been said that anytime grace is proclaimed, legalism will soon follow. What is it about human nature that we love to create rules and regulations to follow rather than following the One who gave His life for us? As you read, [Colossians 2:16-23](#), the Apostle Paul seeks to deal a death blow to legalism by saying the rules and regulations lack any value in leading to a transformed life. Are you one more prone to following the rules, and if yes, why? How might we grow as followers of Jesus, while repenting of being followers of man-made, man-centered rules and regulations?

### Announcements –

- **I Love the Church** – this Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM, the Gospel. Come learn what GENESIS believe about Jesus, salvation, heaven, hell, predestination, free will, and eternal security.
- **the Well: an evening of worship & prayer** – the Well was scheduled for this Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup> but has been postponed for a later time in August. Details of the new date will be posted via the GENESIS website.
- **GENESIS App** – keep up w/all things GENESIS by downloading the NEW GENESIS App – you can download the App for your iPhone (iPad/iTouch) or Droid device by going to: <http://get.thechurchapp.org/share/genesis>

sunday worship gathering at 9am & 11AM [www.genesisjourney.com](http://www.genesisjourney.com)