

High School Small Group Guide

Triumph of Freedom

Colossians 2:6–15

Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

Icebreaker

When have you felt the most free?

It could be:

- The last day of school
- Getting your driver's permit/license
- Finishing a huge project
- Winning a game
- Forgiving someone—or being forgiven

What made that moment feel so freeing?

Sermon Snapshot

Freedom is something everyone wants.

We chase freedom through success, popularity, relationships, sports, money, or independence—but none of those things can truly satisfy.

Paul reminds us in Colossians that **real freedom is found only in Jesus**. Through His death and resurrection, Christ gives us victory over sin, guilt, shame, and death. Because of Him, we don't have to earn God's love—we simply live from it.

Key Verse

Colossians 2:6–7

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving."

Question:

What words stand out to you in this verse? Why?

1. Receive the Victory

(Colossians 2:6–7)

Talk About It

- What does it really mean to "receive" Jesus instead of just believing He exists?
- Why do you think so many teenagers struggle to know if they're truly saved?
- How can knowing you belong to Jesus change the way you handle school, sports, friendships, or stress?

Think About It

Have you personally made the decision to follow Jesus?

If not, what's keeping you from taking that step?

2. Filled with Christ

(Colossians 2:8–10)

Talk About It

What voices compete for your attention?

Examples:

- Social media
- Friends
- Influencers
- Culture
- Music

- Sports
- Success
- Appearance

How do you know whether those voices are pointing you toward Jesus—or away from Him?

Key Thought:

Christ isn't just part of your life.

He is everything you need.

Challenge

What is one distraction you need to spend less time listening to this week?

3. A Changed Heart

(Colossians 2:11)

God isn't interested in changing your appearance.

He wants to change your heart.

Talk About It

- Why is it easier to look like a Christian than actually live like one?
- What does God care about most—your image or your heart?

Personal Reflection

Where do you need God to change your heart?

4. Living a New Life

(Colossians 2:12)

Baptism is an outward picture of an inward change.

It tells the world:

"I belong to Jesus."

Talk About It

- Why do you think baptism is such an important step after salvation?
- What keeps some people from being baptized?

Weekly Challenge

What's one way you can follow Jesus more intentionally this week?

5. Completely Forgiven

(Colossians 2:13–14)

Jesus didn't erase part of your sin.

He erased **all of it**.

Talk About It

- Why is it hard to forgive ourselves even after God forgives us?
- How does knowing Jesus paid your debt change the way you see yourself?

Reflection

Are you carrying guilt that Jesus has already taken away?

6. Living in Victory

(Colossians 2:15)

Jesus has already won the battle.

We don't fight **for** victory.

We fight **from** victory.

Read Together

Romans 8:37–39

Discuss

- What battles are students your age facing today?
- How does knowing Jesus has already won give you hope?

The pastor said,

"If you're at the bottom of the hill...look up. The cross is your hope."

How does that encourage you?

Living It Out

Choose one challenge this week.

- ☒ Invite a friend to church or youth group.
 - ☒ Share something God has been teaching you with a friend.
 - ☒ Spend 10 minutes each day reading Colossians 2.
 - ☒ Encourage someone who feels alone or discouraged.
 - ☒ Thank God every day for one way He's given you freedom.
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Prayer Time

Share:

- One thing you're thankful for.
- One challenge you're facing.
- One way your group can pray for you this week.

Pray together that God would help each person experience the freedom and victory found only in Jesus.

Going Deeper This Week

Read one passage each day:

- Monday – Romans 6:1–14
- Tuesday – Galatians 5:1
- Wednesday – Ephesians 2:1–10
- Thursday – 1 Peter 2:9–10
- Friday – Colossians 2:6–15

Final Challenge

This week, remember:

Freedom isn't doing whatever you want.

Freedom is becoming who God created you to be through Jesus Christ.