



# GREATER Greater Wholeness

#npgreater

Week 2  
2 of 4

July 11, 2021

**Bottom Line:** You have EVERYTHING you need or would want in Jesus.

**Icebreaker:** What's on your bucket list for the rest of the summer? How about the rest of the year?

**Key Verse:** "You are complete in Him, who is the head of all authority and power." Colossians 2:10 MEV

Many times Paul encourages the church in Colossae to be found "In Christ." Operating "In Christ," we become lesser, and Christ becomes greater. Where He is greater, life is better. John the Baptist said, "He must become greater; I must become less" (John 3:30). When we make that decision to become less so that Christ becomes greater (in our lives) then His greatness makes us whole. If you're going to follow Jesus, then everything you believe must be through the understanding that Jesus is ENOUGH. If not, Satan can deceive you every which way. How well you behave, how you hear correction, how you see yourself physically, mentally, and emotionally all gets thrown off its axis if you don't fully understand this. Paul shows them how they can grasp this path to greater wholeness: **Recognize Jesus.** Distraction will keep us from recognizing who He is and what He has done. Jesus is all the fullness of God. He is enough. **Receive Jesus.** Walk with Him in relationship. You received Him in faith and that is how you continue the walk. Jesus plus nothing. Just continue the faith walk with Him. **Be rooted in Jesus.** Things without roots blow over in storms; without roots they die. Paul says we must have deep roots so that we can be stable and grow. Roots don't grow where everyone can see. We live in a very transient society that has a difficult time understanding what roots are. Our culture loves the visible. But the only way the visible stays sustainable is by having deep roots. They don't just grow during one season; they grow in every season. Committing deeply to Jesus gives us everything we need. Having this robust, rooted faith in an uncertain culture gives us greater wholeness. **Remember Jesus.** He lives in you, and He is the fullness of God. Paul was reminding them that we don't have to strive for approval. They had forgotten and were trying to take credit for things. When the fullness of Christ is in you, there is no room for you to take credit. **Rejoice in Jesus.** Rejoice in Jesus's forgiveness. Rejoice that Jesus canceled your charges. Rejoice that Jesus has disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. Rejoice that Jesus is GREATER than anything you will face or deal with. Are you trying to earn something that's already been paid for? Do you believe that following rules will give you the credibility to enter heaven? You couldn't be more wrong. It's fully Jesus. It's always been Jesus. Paul says it will never deviate from being Jesus. There's only ONE who can complete you. Through Him you will receive peace of mind and heart—greater wholeness.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

What was the most significant part of Sunday's message to you?

The concept of "greater wholeness or greater fullness" is confusing to some. How would you explain the possibility and the plan?

The people in Colossae were drifting away from the core truth that Jesus is enough. They were adding things to their salvation. What kinds of things do people add?

Paul is talking about what he wants believers to know and feel in the path to greater wholeness: *"I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments. For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong"* (Colossians 2:2-5). Which part of this do you need most?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

What does it practically mean to you that in Jesus lies all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge?

How you behave, how you hear correction, how you see yourself physically, mentally, and emotionally all gets thrown off its axis when you don't realize Jesus is enough. Reflect and discuss how you have seen this played out.

How is receiving Jesus to walk in Him different than receiving Him as Savior? How does it add to greater wholeness? How do you grow deep roots spiritually?

Paul said, "Don't become captive to philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition." How does that speak to your life and walk with Christ?

When the fullness of Christ is in you, there is no room for you to take credit. Discuss.

How does rejoicing deepen your roots?

# NEXT STEPS

1. Check for any additions you have made to your life that are taking space, energy, and credit that belong to Jesus.
2. How are you doing at recognizing Jesus, receiving Jesus, being rooted in Jesus, remembering Jesus, and rejoicing in Jesus? Talk to Jesus about anything that needs improvement.
3. Rejoice in Jesus aloud and to someone else every day this week.

## EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** You have EVERYTHING you would need or want in Jesus.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Monday: 1 Corinthians 1:30

Tuesday: Colossians 1:10

Wednesday: Ephesians 3:16-19

Thursday: Ephesians 2:8-9

Friday: Romans 5:10-11

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*