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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Colossians 1:9-14
Lesson #4
Walk Worthy
02/15/2026

1

“Christ is enough”!

Jeremiah 31:13
“I will **turn their mourning into joy** and will comfort them”

John 1:4
“**In Him was life**, and the life was **the Light of mankind.**”

John 10:10
“I came that they might **have life**, and might have it **abundantly.**”

He didn’t seem to be enough

- for Jesus himself on the cross. *Matt.27:41-43*
- for Jesus when he needed help. *Matt.4:1-11*
- for Paul when he needed help. *2 Cor.12:7-10*



2

Has Christ seemed to be enough for us when:

- Our worldly assets are lost or threatened
- Our prayer requests are not answered
- We have no peace in times of trouble
- Our expectations are not met

1 Corinthians 4
“9 I think, God has exhibited us apostles **last of all**, as men condemned to death; ... 13 ... we have become as the **scum of the world**, the dregs of all things, even until now.”

1 Corinthians 15:19
“If we have **hoped in Christ**, **in this life** only, we are of all men most to **be pitied.**”



3

Paul turned mourning into joy

Difficult circumstances are not inconsistent with God’s love and will.

They are the framework for God’s **PEACE** and **POWER.**

as we **take our baptism** (union with Christ) **seriously.**



4

Hebrews 4

“1 Therefore, let us fear lest, while **a promise remains** of entering **His rest**, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.”

Resting in peace has three spheres.

- Reconciliation with God** 
REST IN PEACE by **FAITH** before God.
- Response to life** 
REST IN PEACE by **FAITH** while suffering.
- Resurrection to heaven** 
REST IN PEACE - by **FAITH** for eternity.

5

“Jesus is enough”

1:9-14
Paul petitions God that **access to the full and proper understanding of God’s inheritance** - both the **WORD** and the **WAY** of the **CROSS.**

6

“Jesus is the way to a full life.”

Colossians 1

“9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be **filled** with the knowledge of His will in **all** spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you may walk in a manner **worthy** of the Lord, to please Him in **all** respects, bearing fruit in **every** good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with **all** power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of **all** steadfastness and patience; joyously 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has **qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light**. 13 For He **delivered us** from the **domain of darkness**, and **transferred us** to the kingdom of His beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

7

Colossians 1:9-14 Interpretive Paraphrase

“I petition God that you would understand what it really means to be a disciple of Christ who removed you **from the dark side of Satan’s way of seeing a “full life” in this world to the light of the domain of light** modeled by Jesus. We are called as **Alien Ambassadors** to not only embrace the Word of the Cross but also the **Way of the Cross (wisdom, perseverance, power, gratitude, joy, patience, fruitfulness, and good works)**.

“Jesus is the way to a full life.”
when walk in his Spirit, Light, and Way.

8



9

Three signs that we may be misunderstanding our spiritual inheritance.

¹
We include O.C. ideas of blessing with **Jesus’ model** of blessing in the N.C.

²
We define the promised “abundant life” as the **“American dream”** of health, wealth, etc.

³
We expect Jesus / faith to bring fullness of life by addressing circumstances **rather than our response to them**.

10

The temptation of Jesus and us is: to invest our faith in the right source but for the wrong: things, reason, and time.



Matthew 4

“³ **Command** that these stones become bread.”

Change the circumstances!

⁶ **He will command His angels concerning you** so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

Claim the promises!

⁹ All these things I will give you, **if you (prostrate yourself before) me.**”

Compromise the means!

11

“Walk in a manner worthy of your calling.”

Colossians 1

“9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you may **walk in a manner worthy of the Lord**, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

Ephesians 4:1

“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** with which you have been called,”

Romans 12

“1 I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship**. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

12

Walking in the full peace and power of God:

It starts with **insight into our inheritance**.

"12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to **share in the inheritance** of the saints in light. 13 For He **delivered** us from the **domain of darkness**, and **transferred** us to the **kingdom of His beloved Son**, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

It starts with **FAITH**

Justification

It leads to **FELLOWSHIP** 1:3-8

Discipleship

It extends to **FILLING** 1:9-14

It results in **FOLLOWING**

"9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with **the knowledge of His will** in all **spiritual wisdom and understanding**, 10 so that you may **walk in a manner worthy** of the Lord, to **please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work** and **increasing in the knowledge of God**; 11 strengthened with all **power**, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all **steadfastness and patience; joyously**"

13

How are we to respond?

1. Give attention to increasing **insight** into what it means to be "in Christ" as a disciple.

"Christ is enough!" if we access the perspective & power that comes with being "in Christ".

2. Realize that if we do not **increase** our commitment to walk in the **WAY** of the **CROSS**, we will be feeding our dark side.

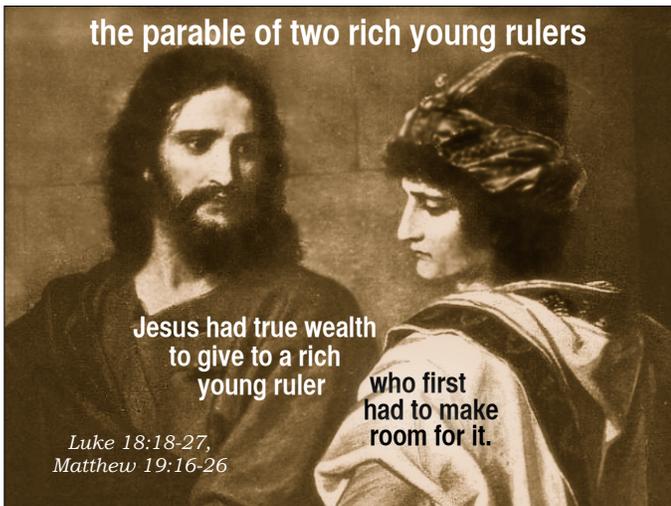
We must "put off" the old and "put on" the new life, if we are to be a light to the world as disciples of Christ. Col.3:9-10

3. We must **integrate** the Spirit of the **WORD** of the cross and eternal life with the light of the **WAY** of the **Cross** in this life.

Discipleship is about how much we give up to make room for how much we are offered "in Christ".

14

the parable of two rich young rulers



Jesus had true wealth to give to a rich young ruler

who first had to make room for it.

Luke 18:18-27,
Matthew 19:16-26

15

Mark 12:38-44

The widow's mite was not about how much she gave away,



but about how much she willingly gave up.

16

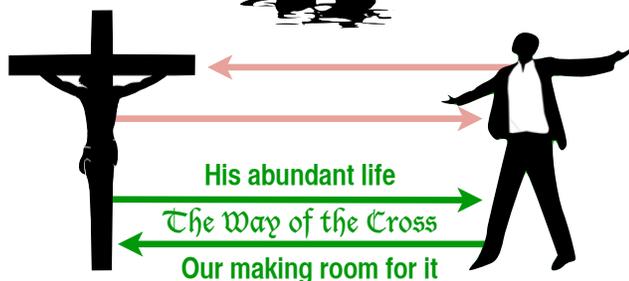
Abundant life is rooted in both the **WORD** and the **WAY** of the **CROSS**.

Ephesians 2

"8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast.



10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."



17

The greater gift

"A monk in his travels once found a precious stone and kept it. One day he met a traveler, and when the monk opened his bag to share his provisions with him, the traveler saw the jewel and asked the monk to give it to him. The monk did so readily. The traveler departed overjoyed with the unexpected gift of the precious stone that was enough to give him wealth and security for the rest of his life. However, a few days later he came back in search of the monk, found him, gave him back the stone, and entreated him, **Now give me something much more precious than this stone.**



Anthony De Mello
Indian Jesuit priest

Give me that which enabled you to give it to me."

18

