

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE

AS YOU HAVE RECEIVED CHRIST, KEEP WALKING IN HIM

Colossians 2:6,7

Six of our youth are graduating from High School about now – three yesterday from Rock County Christian School, others coming up or already done. I'm taking the occasion of Lance's profession of faith this morning to speak in a particular way to you six *and* to all the young people of the congregation, and to do so from Colossians 2, centered around verses 6,7.

1. Receive Christ Jesus as your Lord (vs.6).

The Apostle speaks to a new church from his heart (1:24-2:5).

But much of what he says could be said by parents, pastors, elders, Christian teachers – to the young people of this congregation.

What we long & pray for & struggle & labor & even suffer for (which we committed to do when you were baptized) -

to present you to the Lord "complete in Christ" (1:28).

We pray that the same Holy Spirit who moved your parents to trust in Christ will move you to *receive Him as your Savior and Lord.*

2. Then what? Go on walking in Him (vs.6).

We give thanks to God that so many of our covenant youth have given good evidence of having received Christ – many of you having professed your faith in Him before this congregation.

Now ... *go on walking in Him.*

That is, make it your purpose and endeavor to live each day in fellowship with Jesus Christ and for Him.

It's almost trite to say, but TRUE, that completing High School should not be the end of learning, nor should profession of faith in Christ be the end of learning about Him or living for Him.

3. Watch for dangers.

God sent His Son Jesus into this world because it is at war with Him, and He is intent on saving His people out of it.

The world is hostile to Jesus Christ and those who live for Him.

Paul speaks of this in verses 4 & 8 – the danger of being deceived by persuasive arguments,

or of being taken captive by the philosophy that lies at the root of the world's rebellion against God.

The most dangerous people may be the nicest or the coolest or the smartest.

4. Hold to the foundation of what you have been taught and build on that.

Believers – you have been rooted firmly in Christ & in His Word.

NOW you need to build (mixed metaphor) on that foundation – and NOT move away from it.

All the treasures of wisdom & knowledge are found in Christ (v.3); hold fast to Him & to His Word, no matter what.