

## 2024-10-06 - Holding On to Faith: Lessons from Colossians 2

### Summary

The sermon emphasizes the importance of holding onto the core teachings of Christianity, focusing on Jesus as the central figure of faith. Pastor Thomas discusses the need for a prayer of expectancy, encouraging believers to pray with faith and expect God to act. He uses the example of 'Doubting Thomas' to illustrate that questioning and seeking clarity in faith is acceptable. The sermon also addresses the challenges of maintaining Christian orthodoxy amidst various teachings and traditions, urging believers to focus on the truth of the scriptures and the person of Jesus Christ. The message concludes with a call to remember Jesus through communion, highlighting its significance as a sacred practice that connects believers to the presence of Christ.

### Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You with open hearts and minds, ready to receive what You have for us today. Help us to pray with expectancy and faith, trusting in Your power and presence in our lives. Guide our discussion and let Your truth be revealed to us. Amen.

### Ice Breaker

What is one thing you are expecting or hoping for in the coming week?

### Key Verses

1. John 14:6
2. Colossians 2:16-23
3. Matthew 28:18-20
4. Hebrews 10:23-25

### Questions

1. What does it mean to pray with expectancy, and how can we cultivate this in our daily lives?
2. How do you relate to the story of 'Doubting Thomas'? Have you ever experienced doubt in your faith journey?
3. What are some challenges you face in holding onto the core teachings of Christianity?
4. How can we discern between true and false teachings in today's world?
5. What role does community play in strengthening our faith and understanding of scripture?
6. Why is it important to focus on Jesus as the central figure of our faith?
7. How does communion help us remember and connect with Jesus?
8. What are some practical ways we can keep our eyes fixed on Jesus amidst life's challenges?

**Life Application**

This week, take time each day to pray with expectancy, asking God to reveal Himself in your life and to strengthen your faith. Reflect on the core teachings of Jesus and how you can apply them in your interactions with others.

**Key Takeaways**

1. Pray with faith and expectancy, trusting in God's power.
2. Questioning and seeking clarity in faith is acceptable and can lead to deeper understanding.
3. Hold onto the core teachings of Christianity, focusing on Jesus as the central figure.
4. Discernment is crucial in identifying true teachings and avoiding false doctrines.
5. Communion is a sacred practice that connects us to the presence of Christ.

**Ending Prayer**

Lord, thank You for this time of discussion and reflection. Help us to hold onto Your truth and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. May we leave here with a renewed sense of faith and expectancy, ready to live out Your teachings in our daily lives. Amen.