

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. . . " Colossians 2:6-15



PRAY THAT MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE BORN AGAIN IN THE COMING SEASON.

## TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

Paul tells us in Colossians 2 that through Christ we who were far off were "circumcised" into a new body, Then Paul correlates this to conversion baptism, reminding us that the old self symbolically dies in baptism and is raised to walk in new life. We were dead, and now we are alive. A new people of God in turn live new lives: they do God's work!

I struggle to see my unbelieving neighbors as dead. After all, they walk and breath. The Bible is clear: we must be made alive and cut into new life. Salvation in Jesus has always been bloody. Sacrifices, the cross, circumcision; Dying and rising in new life is bloody; primarily it occurs through the blood of Jesus, but a death still takes place. It hurts to die.

What would Houston look like if we remember that our neighbors are dead and need life? That we were dead and raised? What if remembered the cost Christ gave his broken body and shed blood to raise dead people? What if we told them that Jesus rose and can raise all who come to him?

## **TODAY'S PRAYER:**

Lord, give life to the dead. By your Spirit, call my neighbor, my friend, my family, my coworker, all who don't know you, to awaken in new life. Use me, if it pleases you, to declare your salvation to dead men. And raise me up in new life daily, as I die to myself and put on the new. Amen.



