

## **LIVE OUT THE NEW NORMAL.**

Colossians 2:4-7

*I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. <sup>5</sup> For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. <sup>6</sup> Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

Heads up...

- Beware of sugar-coated sayings – 2:4 *I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.*

Romans 16:17-18

*I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. <sup>18</sup> For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by **smooth talk** and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.*

Ephesians 5:6

*Let no one **deceive** you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.*

James 1:26

*If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but **deceives** his heart, this person's religion is worthless.*

Colossians 4:6

*Let your speech always be gracious, **seasoned with salt**, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.*

- Be aware your discipline and firm faith inspire others – 2:5 *For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.*

1 Peter 5:8–9

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.<sup>9</sup> Resist him, **firm in your faith**, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

*What does the new normal look like?*

1) Receive Christ – 2:6 *Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,*

2) Walk in grace – 2:6 *Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,*

3) Walk in strength – 2:7a *rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught,*

4) Walk in thanksgiving – 2:7b *abounding in thanksgiving.*

*Resources for growing in the firmness of your faith:*

- Toddlers & Preschool: *A Child's First Bible* (illustrated by Kenneth Taylor).
- Toddlers & Preschool: *The Bible App for Kids* (free download).
- Elementary: *The Attributes of God for Children* (William Lane Craig & Marli Renee).
- Elementary: *The Case for Christ for Kids*.
- Elementary: *The Case for a Creator for Kids*.
- Elementary: *The Case for Faith for Kids*.
- Middle school & High school: *Gotquestions.org*.
- Middle school & High school: *The Bible Project* (YouTube).
- College & above: *On Guard* (William Lane Craig).
- College & above: *Reasonablefaith.org*, *Reasonable Faith Podcast* (William Lane Craig), or search "*William Lane Craig debates*" on YouTube for a fair exchange of ideas.
- Christianity 101: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in WCC taught by Dr. Larry Starkey.
- *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem.
- *Christian Theology* by Millard J. Erickson.