

“Christ In Us: Relocation”

Growth Group Guide

August 31, 2025

WELCOME *(Connecting with each other)*

Have you ever relocated? Most of us have moved at least once in our lives. Perhaps even across state lines or across continents. For some, we’ve moved several times. What about you? Do you have a moving/relocation story that stands out in your mind today? Share your story with the group. Talk about the challenges and benefits of the move. Did you see God in the relocation experience? If so, how? Share now.

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER *(Connecting with God)*

Read the verse and prayer below. Take some time to praise and thank God that He gave us a wonderful, secure, and permanent home in Christ.

Psalm 91:1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

“How delighted I am to have You as my dwelling place where I can settle down, feel secure and be content anywhere on earth...You are my blessed home, “where I can enter and be at rest...” (Andrew Murray). How my soul delights to hide in the secret of Your presence...to take refuge in the shadow of Your wings, to eat at Your table, to drink my fill of the river of Your delights. How blessed I am, my King and my God, for You have chosen me, and brought me near, to live in Your presence, to behold Your delightfulness, to seek Your counsel...And to think that I will dwell in Your house forever!” *(Ruth Meyers. Warren Meyers. 31 Days of Praise, Day 17. Kindle. Ps 90:1, 91:1, 31:20, 36:7-8, 65:3, 27:4-5, 23:6, John 15:5)

WORD *(Letting God speak to us)*

1. From the sermon, what was the fatal mistake the Colossians were about to make? (Hint: it’s a certain lie about Jesus.) Do you see this fatal mistake anywhere in our world today? What problems arise when people believe this lie?
2. **Read Colossians 1:13-14.** What four things happened to us, when we gave ourselves to Jesus? Based on these verses, can mere philosophy or religion save a person from a condition of being in darkness, sin, and under Satan’s authority?
3. How would you describe the domain of darkness and the Kingdom of His Beloved Son? Key in on their differences.
4. In this passage, the Greek word for “transfer” means basically deported, exiled. We got the boot out of the domain of darkness! Not only that, but we weren’t kicked out to just wander in no-man’s-land. God moved us right into the Kingdom of Christ, a gift of love to Him and to us. Also, in Christ, He made sure we don’t owe anything for this new home. What does it mean for you to have a new home in the kingdom of love, light, and purity in Christ?

5. Did you know that God had given you to His Beloved Son as a love gift? What does it mean to you that you are a gift of love to Jesus?
6. **Read Colossians 1:16-17.** What do we learn about Jesus in these verses? How does this enlarge your view of Him?
7. What about your position in Christ from Colossians 1:13-14 and 1:16-17 give you stability that maybe you didn’t have before?
8. **Read Colossians 2:1-3.** What gives you confidence in your position in Christ from Colossians 1:16-17 and 2:1-3?
9. From Colossians 2:2, how do we have community? How is it described?
10. When we need the understanding and ability to act on truth, from Colossians 2:2b-3, how do we have it?
11. Pulling this all together, summarize why is it important for Jesus to have His proper place in relation to us, Christian or non-Christian?
12. What do you think about the statement from the sermon, based on the life of Paul, that “prayer is the heavy lifting of ministry?” How does this change your perspective on the work of ministry?

WALK *(Living out God’s purposes)*

- ✓ **One Big Idea: When we moved into Christ, we were given a new home, stability, community, confidence, and a comprehension and capability to act on truth.** Have you seen any of these outcomes happening in your life or here at Thurston? Which one do you hope to see more of next in your life or here at Thurston? Spend time praying about it this week.
- ✓ Do you know anyone in your life who needs to know that mere philosophy and religion can’t save them, only Jesus can? Spend time praying for them this week. Ask God to help them understand what they truly need. Use Colossians 1:13-14 and 2:2b-3 for inspiration.

WORLD *(Embracing God’s heart for others)*

It’s back to school time and church teams all around Springfield and Eugene, plus an army of Bushnell students, spent last weekend donating time for cleanup projects on school campuses. Here in Springfield, Thurston and Eastside Baptist joined teams to shine the love of Jesus in our local community at our mutually adopted campus, Ridgeview Elementary. A friendly and loving group of hard-working people (kids and adults alike) cleaned-up the school campus and prayed over the building, campus, staff, students, and volunteers. One Hope also had an amazing turn out for their Project Hope 2025 - Back to School Giveaway. Thousands of athletic shoes and school supplies were given away to students and families in need. Beyond their 5 main giveaway events, they were able to provide athletic shoes for churches in Florence to pilot their own giveaway. May our united generosity continue to reflect the heart of God and lead many to overflow with thankfulness!

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and...[it] will result in thanksgiving to God.” 2 Cor. 9:11

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