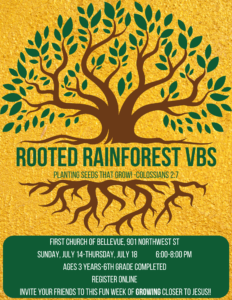
**Message Outline**

*ROOTED Rainforest VBS*

**Colossians 2:7**

**Intro:** Pause on summer series for VBS!!!

* Nostalgia and trends of VBS…
* VBS Lessons this week…

Sun: Looking to the SON

Mon: Putting down ROOTS

Tues: GROWING with Jesus…

Wed: Bearing FRUIT…

**Read:** Colossians 2:1-15

**v.1-3—**Paul’s heart for the church…even the faith community he’s never met!

* Always comes back to Jesus! God’s mysterious plan (v.2) and wisdom/knowledge (v.3)…

**v.4—**Alert to deception…even in church!

**v.5—**“life and faith”…what we believe and ways we live as followers of Jesus.

**v.6—**Lord means leader of life…

**v.7—**THEME VERSE!!!

**v.8—**Deception once again…

**v.9-15—**Keep coming back to Jesus! His nature, forgiveness, new life…

***7Let*** *your* ***roots*** *grow down into* ***him****, and* ***let*** *your lives be* ***built*** *on* ***him****. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.*

1) The C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity

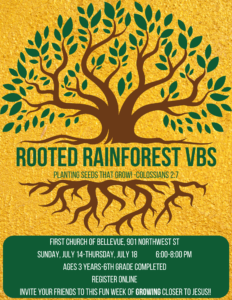
* “Let” shows we have a say…
* Signing a waiver…
* Have we not experienced some things with God because we’ve never “let” God???

2) The A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity

* The purpose of roots: anchor and nourish…
* Doing the work beneath the surface…
* Life with God when no one is watching…
* The results of “rooted” and “built” in Christ: truth and thankfulness…

3) The C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity

* All about Jesus: His work and His help!

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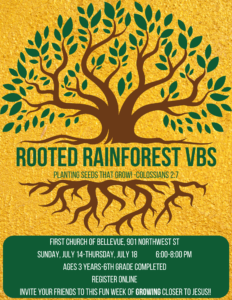
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3) The C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity

* All about Jesus: His work and His help!

**Colossians 2:1-15 NLT**

**1** I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally. **2**I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God’s mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. **3**In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

**4**I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments. **5**For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.

**6**And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him**. 7Let your ROOTS grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.**

**8**Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. **9**For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. **10**So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.

**11**When you came to Christ, you were “circumcised,” but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision—the cutting away of your sinful nature. **12**For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.

**13**You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. **14**He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. **15**In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

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