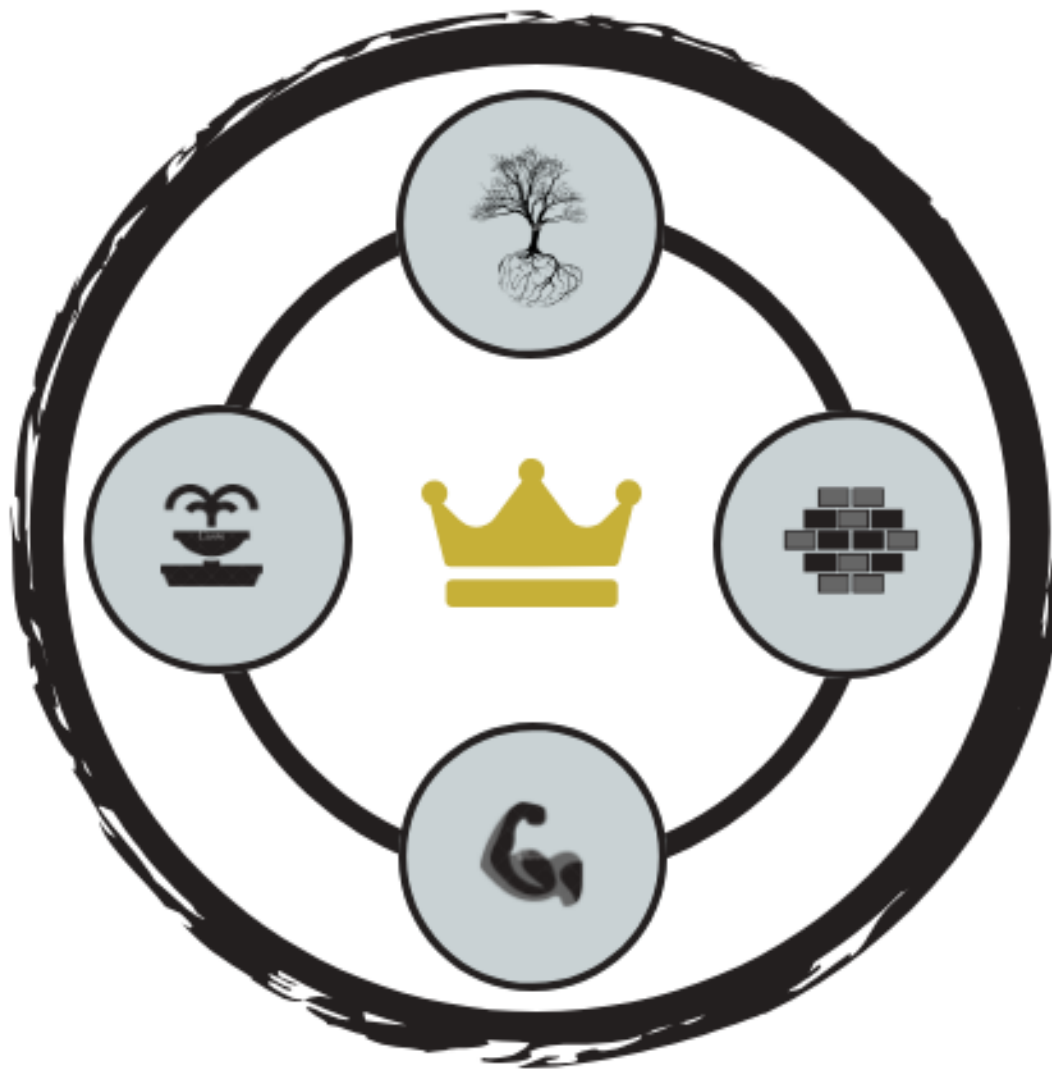
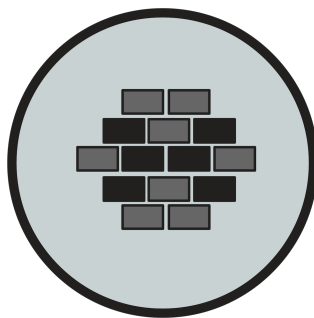
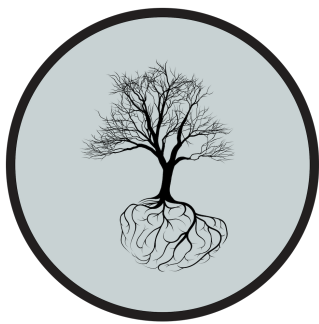


THRIVE



"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." (Colossians 2:6-7)

THRIVE

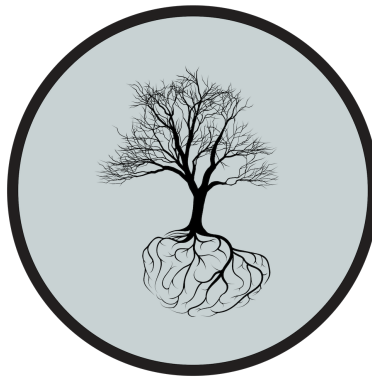


Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

2018 at RbC has been about thriving – growing and flourishing in Christ. Thriving starts when Jesus Christ becomes our Life, and that starts with the gospel. The gospel changes everything. Jesus is our Life and our Lord. The gospel roots the rest of our life-long walk in Christ. And thriving continues as we are built up in Christ, as we are established in the faith, and as we overflow with gratitude.

Jesus intends us to thrive – to be real people experiencing real life – His life in us – in the real world. And to share that life with others.



Colossians 2:6-7

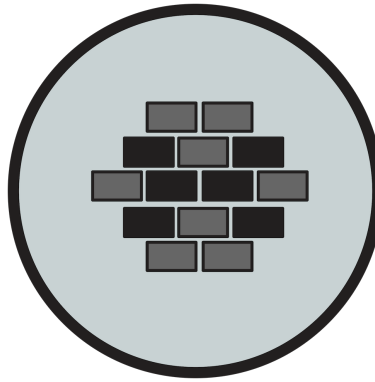
*Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, **having been firmly rooted** and now being built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.*

1. Memorize Colossians 2:6-7.
2. The main point (the “so what?”) in Colossians 2:6-7 is found in the main verb – “so walk”. It’s what we are to do. Think about walking, and talk about the following ideas with your small group.
 - Walking is most common picture/image used in the New Testament to describe our discipleship – following Jesus
 - Walking is moment-by-moment . . . daily . . . lifelong
 - Walking is usually toward something (so every step matters); often with others (so our traveling companions matter)
 - Walking pictures direction, purpose, choices, process, activity, journey, continuity
 - Walking is always in Christ (our Life) and under Christ (our Lord) and with Christ (our Friend)

Walking is what we do. Everything else in Colossians 2:6-7 tells us how to walk.

3. “As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.” In what ways does Who Jesus is (Christ Jesus the Lord), and how you received Him (by grace through faith) carry over into your moment-by-moment and life-long walk?
4. “Having been firmly rooted.” This phrase describes something done in us and to us – by God and by the gospel. The gospel roots the rest of my life-long walk in Christ. In what ways are you rooted and grounded in the gospel? How does the gospel ground your walk?
5. What did you hear in Sunday’s sermon that helps you walk in a confident and growing manner?

THRIVE Week 2
Built Up In Christ



Colossians 2:6-7

*Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted
and now being built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were instructed,
and overflowing with gratitude.*

1. Review our memory verse – Colossians 2:6-7
2. Our verse now adds a new word picture – I am both a living plant that is rooted and growing, and a building under construction, but on a solid foundation.
 - A. What does it mean to you that Jesus is the Cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20) on which your life is built? The Cornerstone on which the church is built?
 - B. A building is a structure made of many different and connected materials. Jesus' building is His church ("I will build My church" – Jesus, Matthew 16:18). How are you being built up, connected and together with others in the church, in RbC?
 - C. See 1 Thessalonians 5:11. What part do you have in building up others? In what ways do you do that?
3. Remember the main point – we **walk** in a new way and a new direction – because we are being built up in Christ. How is your **walk** changing because of Jesus, and because of RbC?
4. Rockbridge Church is built together around a common vision and mission. What is our vision and mission, and how do they change how you walk in Christ?
5. What did you hear in Sunday's sermon that helps you walk in a connected and hopeful manner?

THRIVE Week 3
Established in the Faith



Colossians 2:6-7

*Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him **and established in the faith, just as you were instructed,** and overflowing with gratitude.*

Let's start with a few clarifying comments. The idea of being "established" is not so much being strengthened, but being made firm and secure and settled. And "the faith" here is not our personal faith, but rather the body of truth, the good news and teachings and sound doctrine, that bring us to Christ and establish us in Him.

While it is true that "we walk by faith" (2 Corinthians 5:7 – our personal faith), the idea in Colossians 2:6-7 is that we "walk in the faith" ("the faith" is all God's truth; so, we "walk in the truth" – see 2 John 4; 3 John 3-4).

1. Read Colossians 1:3-8. The gospel is described as the "word of truth". In what other ways is the action and outcome of the gospel described? How did you first hear and learn the truth of the gospel? When you first received the gospel, how did it initially begin to change the way you walked?
2. Read Luke 10:38-42. What choices did both Martha and Mary make about becoming "established in the faith"? What can we learn from them? What choices do you make?
3. In what ways does RbC help you in the process of being "established in the faith"?
4. Talk about this with your group – a solid biblical foundation is basic to following Christ and growing to maturity as His disciple.
5. What did you hear in Sunday's sermon that helps you walk in a trusting and faithful manner?

THRIVE Week 4
Overflowing with Gratitude



Colossians 2:6-7

*Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were instructed, **and overflowing with gratitude.***

1. Be sure you have Colossians 2:6-7 memorized. Share it with your small group.
2. In what ways is “overflowing with gratitude” both a natural outcome of living in Christ, and an intentional choice?
3. What things are gratitude an antidote to? Why is gratitude such an attractive quality?
4. Ponder this – “overflowing with gratitude” describes how we walk, which is a moment-by-moment or continual process. Gratitude is not occasional; rather it’s a constant in the life of a Christ follower.
5. What did you hear in Sunday’s sermon that helps you walk in a content and generous and grateful manner?