



# The Word at Work

## Complete In Christ

### Reading the Word

*Key Text:* Colossians 2:6-15

### Understanding the Word

- Do not allow yourself to be in any way distracted from this essential truth – you are complete in Christ. (v.10; John 19:30)
- Sin is like cancer. It has to be cut out but the process is terminal – you will die! (v.11)
- Before we come to Christ we are ‘dead men walking’ anyway. (v.13)
- During his earthly ministry Jesus often forgave people their sins. However he still went to the cross. Why? Because the sinful nature (we are all born with) requires a penalty to be paid – the shedding of blood and hence death. (Leviticus 7:11; Hebrews 9:22; Genesis 3:21; 22:13)
- The system of animal sacrifices would have had to be carried on forever had it not been for the once and for all sacrifice of the spotless Lamb of God. Totally innocent (sinless), not deserving of death. That is why death could not hold him. Just when death thought it had him in its grasp Jesus burst free triumphantly. (v.14-15; Hebrews 7:27; 9:12-15)
- At its most basic the only thing we have to do is ‘believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood’ Romans 3:25a (NLT). We can not add to what Christ has already done. We are complete in him.

### Doing the Word

*To Discuss:*

1. What does it mean *to you personally* to be ‘complete in Christ’?
2. In the context of this passage (Colossians 2:6-15) how can we respond to v.6-7 in practical ways?

*To Do:*

1. Learn the memory verse – ‘This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.’ 1 John 4:10 (NIV)
2. Look up, read and think about the following references: Romans 5:6-11; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 1:7; 2:4-5; Colossians 1:13-14; 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 2:24; 3:18; 1 John 3:8b; 4:10;

*Trevor Shotter – 22 April 2007*