



Colossians: Jesus Over Everything

August 6 – Colossians 1:15-20 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with Scripture, silence, and prayer (5 minutes).

Read Psalm 2 to begin. As we continue this sermon series, we want to orient our hearts and minds to contemplating the supremacy of Jesus. Use this Psalm to help you do just that as you begin your time together.

After you've finished reading and sharing, have a specified person in the group pray for your time together.

Next, ask, "Did anyone memorize Colossians 1:12-14?" Allow them space to share with the group.

Split into smaller groups to read Colossians 1:15-20 and discuss (15 minutes).

- Take a few minutes to read Colossians 1:15-20.
- Once you've finished reading, answer the following questions:
 1. According to these verses, what are all the different ways that Paul describes Jesus in this text?
 2. Read Hebrews 1:1-4. How does this passage depict what Paul says here in Colossians 1:15-20? What are the similarities?
 3. Why do you think a high view of Jesus is necessary for the people of the church at Colossae?

- Once you've finished with these questions, spend one minute reflecting on your conversation. Is there anything sticking with you from God's Word? Be prepared to share that with your whole group.

Come back together as a large group to talk about the sermon (20 minutes).

- Have each person in the group share what stuck with them from their time in Colossians 1:15-20.
- In his sermon, Dan mentioned ten characteristics of Jesus from this passage: (1) Jesus is the image of God; (2) Jesus is the firstborn over all creation; (3) Jesus is the creator of all things; (4) Jesus is the one for whom all things were created; (5) Jesus is before all things; (6) Jesus is the one who holds all things together; (7) Jesus is the head of the church, which is his body; (8) Jesus is the beginning and the firstborn from the dead; (9) Jesus is the dwelling place of God; (10) and Jesus is the reconciler of all things. Which of these resonates with you most? Why?
- How do Paul's words challenge how people in our culture view Jesus?
- In what ways does this passage challenge your personal understanding and perception of Christ? Ask yourself questions like: How can I practically acknowledge Christ's supremacy in my daily life? In what areas of my life do I need to surrender to his lordship? How can I actively participate in the work of reconciliation? Where am I neglecting his authority in my life?
- After reading a passage like Colossians 1:15-20, what new or deepened feelings or thoughts do you have about Jesus? Share these with your group.

Spend time memorizing Scripture (10 minutes).

Take a few minutes to break apart and challenge your group to begin memorizing Colossians 1:15-16.

Finish with logistics and prayer (10 minutes).

1. Make sure to inform your group about the study devotionals available to help you walk through the text of Colossians! You can find that material at thecreek.org/devotionals.
2. Also, be sure to challenge your group to memorize the verses for this week: **Colossians 1:15-16**. You'll be asked next week to recite them in group!

3. Finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.