

Who Jesus is:

Colossians 1:15-20, Philippians 2:5-11

Image: of the invisible God

Firstborn: over all creation

Fullness: of God- sum of all God

Jesus Claimed To:

1. Equal with God

John 5:18, 8:58-59, 10:30-38, 12:45, 14:7-10, 16:15, 17:11-22

2. Voice of God

Matthew 5:17-44, Mark 13:31, John 6:63, 14:24, 8:51, 14:23

3. Authority over all things

Matthew 8:27, 28:18, Mark 1:27, John 5:27

4. Determine people's destiny

Matthew 7:21-23, Luke 12:8-9, John 3:14-19, 5:22-27, 6:40, 8:12, 10:7-21, 14:6

5. Forgive people's sins

Mark 2:5-7, Luke 5:20-24

What Jesus did:

Colossians 1:21-22

Reconciled: Made right

What we do:

Colossians 1:23

We have a choice to make.

My prayer:

Father today I make a choice to follow you fully.

I confess to you that I have done wrong and am in need of your forgiveness. I receive today your full forgiveness and blessing. I commit to follow you each day as you lead me.

MY STORY

1. How was the description of Jesus, from this weekend's teaching, the same or different from how you think a person on the street would describe Jesus?

2. Think back to what has drawn you or is drawing you to follow Christ now. How would you describe that in your own words or using the list below?

His love for me

Friend's example of God's love

Conviction of sin

Fear of death

Purpose in life

Other

God's grace

Need for forgiveness

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This week we saw that Paul used strong words such as "enemies" and "alienated" to describe the Colossian's spiritual condition (and ours) before they knew Christ (Colossians 1:21). How do the following verses reinforce and further describe who we are before we know Christ?

Romans 1:18-25; 8:7-8

Titus 3:3

Is there anything in these verses that might be difficult to believe or understand? If so, explain.

Why might it be important to know and understand this?

2. Fortunately God hasn't left us to live a life destined to be separated from Him. When any of us make a commitment to follow Christ, some incredible things begin and continue to happen to us spiritually. As you read these verses below in Romans, write down what Paul (the writer of Romans and the book of Colossians) saw as important to understand about the transformation that happens as a person follows Christ.

Romans 7:24-25

Romans 8:1-2

Romans 8:5

Romans 8:12-13

Romans 8:15

Which of these have you experienced in your own journey with Christ? Is there one you forget more than the others? Why would these be important to remember your whole life?

3. There's always going to be a battle to do things our way or the way God's Spirit is leading. What further help does Paul's words in Colossians 1:22-23

offer to this ongoing dilemma we face? How do you deal with the conditions that are set?

Fall Life Group starts September 23rd!

Our Life Groups help promote spiritual growth and maturity in the Real Life community through the development of significant Christian relationships centered on the study of God's word. (Hebrews 10:24-25 & Romans 8:29)

SHARING Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include some planned "sharing questions". But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal, as our group feels safer and more comfortable.

STUDY Each week we'll study a portion of God's word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon. Our goal is to learn how to apply and live out our Christianity in our day-to-day experiences and relationships.

SUPPORT Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (see John 15:9-13). This care will take many forms such as prayer, listening, meeting needs, encouraging and even challenging one another as needed. We also have ongoing Bible Studies available at Real Life: See the calendar at www.seekreallife.com for details.