

Colossians Lesson 3—Colossians 1:15–2:7

Christ's Identity and Work



Memorize the TRUTH!

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. Colossians 1:19-20

DAY 1: Colossians 1:15-19—Christ's Deity

1. What statements did Paul make about Jesus in this passage? Which of these statements support the fact of Jesus's deity?
2. What is the role Christ plays in the universe today? How does knowing this encourage you?
3. What does it mean that Christ is the head of the church? (See also Ephesians 1:22-23.)

DAY 2: Colossians 1:20-23—Christ the Reconciler

4. What did Christ accomplish through the cross?
5. What aspect of Christ's work on your behalf is most meaningful to you?
6. What response to Christ's reconciling work did Paul expect from the Colossians?



Learn the TRUTH!

Jesus suffered and died so we could be reconciled with God. This truth provides hope for the future—we can be forgiven of sin and experience eternal life in heaven. But it also makes a difference in our everyday lives now. We can live in close daily relationship with the Lord, and we can allow Him to bring His reconciliation through us into the world. He wants us to be ambassadors of His peace to the people and situations around us (see 2 Corinthians 5:18-20). What does it look like for you to live in the truth of reconciliation today? Jesus paid an enormous price to make that possible! Plan to talk about this with your small group.

DAY 3: Colossians 1:24-29—Paul's Love for God's People

7. What did Paul say about his suffering?
8. Do you suffer or have you ever suffered for the sake of the gospel? If so, how?
9. What is the "mystery" Paul referred to? Explain it in your own words.
10. What was the goal of Paul's toils? How did he get the strength that he needed to keep going?

DAY 4: Colossians 2:1-4—Encouragement for the Saints

11. Review Colossians 1:28-29. What was Paul struggling over?
12. According to Colossians 2:2, what did Paul want for the recipients of his letter?
13. In another letter, Paul said that Jesus is “wisdom from God” (1 Corinthians 1:30). How would having access to this wisdom and knowledge protect against false teachers?
14. What “plausible arguments” might delude Christians today? Which of these could you be susceptible to?

DAY 5: Colossians 2:5-7—Established in Faith

15. Paul said he rejoiced to see the Colossian believers’ good order and steadfast faith. Why are these things important in a spiritually healthy group of God’s people?
16. Paul used three metaphors to describe a believer’s maturing. In your own words what does each mean?
 - a. “walk in him” (See Galatians 5:25; 2 John 1:6.)
 - b. “rooted” (See Ephesians 3:17.)
 - c. “built up” (See 1 Peter 2:5.)
17. For the Colossians and for today’s believers, why is thanksgiving a result of living out the kind of faith Paul described?

***Apply the TRUTH!***

The idea of “walking” is a common word picture used in Scripture to refer to a godly Christian life (for example, see Colossians 1:10; 2:6; Ephesians 5:2, 8, 15). How specifically might the Lord be inviting you into a closer walk with Him? What first step can you take this week? Plan to talk about this fresh perspective in your small group.

DAY 6: Participate in Class