



Colossians: Jesus Over Everything

August 13 – Colossians 1:21-23 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with Scripture, silence, prayer, and memorization (15 minutes).

Read Psalm 107:1-32 to begin. As we continue this sermon series, we want to orient our hearts and minds to contemplating the saving work of Jesus. Use this Psalm to help you do just that as you begin your time together.

Spend a moment in silence after the reading is finished.

After you've finished reading and sitting in silence, have someone in the group pray for your time together.

Then, go around the group and have each person share from your memorization challenge. Who can recite Colossians 1:15-16 for the group?

Split into smaller groups to read Colossians 1:21-23 and discuss (15 minutes).

- Take a few minutes to read Colossians 1:21-23.
- Once you've finished reading, answer the following questions:
 1. What word, phrase, or concept resonates with you from these verses?
 2. Have one person look at verse 21, one person look at verse 22, and one person look at verse 23. Have them answer the following: "In your own

words, what is the main point that Paul is articulating in this verse? How does that point relate to what comes before it and what comes after it?

3. Reflect on the key terms used in this verse, such as "alienated," "enemies," "reconciled," "holy," and "without blemish." What do these terms mean in the context of our relationship with God through Jesus Christ?
- Once you've finished with these questions, spend one minute reflecting on your conversation. Is there anything that's sticking with you from God's Word?

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

- In his sermon, Dan talked about our "former situation without Jesus." How does the concept of being "alienated" and "hostile" towards God before redemption resonate with your own spiritual journey?
- How aware are you of your present reality in Jesus? What would it look like to cultivate a deeper awareness of that in your life?
- Dan also talked about our "ongoing need for Jesus." When was a time when your faith felt like it wasn't on solid ground? Explain. How can you guard against the "drifting away" that the apostle Paul warns against, ensuring that your faith remains steadfast and unwavering?
- Reflect on the phrase "if you continue in your faith." How can you actively nurture and strengthen your faith to ensure that you remain firmly rooted in the gospel?
- Consider the danger of being "moved away from the hope of the gospel." What potential distractions or influences could divert your focus from the core truths of the gospel message?
- From this sermon, Dan talked about (1) our former situation without Jesus; (2) our present reality in Jesus; and (3) our ongoing need for Jesus. Which of these three aspects of Colossians 1:21-23 do you find yourself thinking about most often – past, present, or future? Why?
- If someone were to ask you to share your story as it relates to those three categories, what would you say?

Spend time memorizing Scripture (10 minutes).

Take a few minutes to break apart and challenge your group to begin memorizing Colossians 1:21-22.

Finish with logistics and prayer (10 minutes).

1. Make sure to inform your group about the study devotions available to help you walk through the text of Colossians! You can find those materials at thecreek.org/devotionals.
2. Also, be sure to challenge your group to memorize the verses for this week: **Colossians 1:21-22**. You'll be asked next week to recite them in group!
3. Finish your group session with prayer. Break everyone down into triads to end the night with prayer for one another. In the groups, have people share "What is on your heart that you need prayer for?" and then spend time praying.