

January 7th, 2024

# In All Things

Colossians 1:13-20

1) Paul says in v. 16 of this passage that all things were created by Jesus and for Jesus. James made the statement that “if everything exists for him, then the corresponding reality is that nothing exists for you.” We suggested that this is good news for us, not bad news. How is “it’s not about you” good news for every one of us?

2) Paul speaks of Jesus as the “firstborn of all creation” and the “firstborn from the dead.” We covered the idea of firstborn denoting an elevated status, but then James also introduced the idea of Jesus as a “prototype”. Explore the implications of this idea together, considering what it means for Jesus to be the model, both in our creation and redemption, that we are patterned after.

3) We ended the message talking about the first-ness or preeminence of Jesus in 4 particular areas of our lives: our inner life, our relationship, our resources and our time. Let’s get honest with ourselves and each other. Where is the Holy Spirit convicting you about the diminishing of Jesus? In what ways, personally, is Jesus’ preeminence being ignored or walled off?

4) We heard this quote from Devern Fromke: *“Believers may not often realize it, but even as believers we are either centered in man, or centered in God. There is no alternative. Either God is the center of our universe and we have become rightly adjusted to him, or we have made ourselves the center and are attempting to make all else orbit around us and for us.”* In light of the previous question, discuss a specific

change or specific changes that you need to make “to become rightly adjust to him.”