



COLOSSIANS

Colossians 1:15-23

Rooted in an Encounter with a Loving God

By Andrew Farhat

Getting Started

- *Larger LIFEGroups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- What is your favorite movie of all time?

Scripture Study (30 Min)

- Read Colossians 1:15-23
- The big idea is that Jesus is the image of God (1:15), He is supreme over the spiritual world because He is God and Creator (1:16-19), and He has reconciled us to God the Father by His death (1:22-23).
- In the beginning, God created human beings in His image (Genesis 1:26-27), meaning we were to resemble God's character and love to the world. However, Satan deceived Adam and Eve into thinking we could take God's spot and be Him (Genesis 3:5). After the Fall into sin, the image of God was lost in us. Have people in your group look up and read aloud Romans 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49; 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:4; Hebrews 1:3 to see the biblical significance of Christ as the Image of God.

- When someone puts their faith in what Christ has done for them on the cross, how are they presented to the Father in 1:22?
- How does the image of God get renewed in us in Paul's continued thought in Colossians 3:9-10? As Christ is formed in us (Gal. 4:19), an internal renewal of the image of God is being accomplished!
- The image of God is being restored in you! Where do you tend to find your self-worth?
- What sort of worth do you afford to people you perceive to be lazy or immoral?
- Where does your identity and self-worth come from on a day to day basis?
- If someone were to ask: Why did Jesus need to die for me? What would you say?
- What is God calling you to believe as a result of this study?

Group Prayer (15 Min)

Trios (20 Min)

Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
 - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
 - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you've encountered it in this week's Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
 - What's an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? How can we encourage you?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
 - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How's your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you're building and spiritual conversations you're having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
 - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:

 - What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
 - How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?