

Jesus And No Other

Colossians 1:15-20

I. Introduction: Idiom Central

1. Idioms are expressions holding a figurative meaning not understandable from the individual meaning of its elements. Common examples of this in our culture are “you gave an inch and they took a mile”, “lying is a slippery slope”, “when pigs fly”, “the lights are on but no one is home”, “there are no sacred cows here”, “she kicked the bucket”, “you are barking up the wrong tree”, “its toast”, “you’re a bull in a china closet”, “get your ducks in a row”, “the honeymoon is over”, “running around with your head cut off”, “that dog just don’t hunt”, “that is the tail wagging the dog”, “just by the skin of your teeth”, and “that’s a cakewalk, no brainer, or the elephant in the room”.
2. I note these as our poetic and theologically rich passage today has idioms expressing transcendent truths revealing God and our position in AND outside of Him. In the spirit of idioms being in focus today, let me say that in an entirely different way...today’s passage is the best thing since sliced bread.

II. Colossians 1:15-20: Profound Poetry

1. The composition and structure of these verses is loaded with meaning and a poetic license we note even in its translation into English. It seems the Apostle Paul is presenting the gospel we noted in versed 5-6 previously. Paul first establishes Jesus as Creator and Lord of ALL things materially and spiritually when all of time began. He then moves on in that becoming man, dying, and rising from the dead, He is Lord over what is a new creation.
2. Paul’s emphasizes that as new creations in Christ, the Colossae saints will be changed from the inside-out. This is NOT a temporary condition, but as born-again Christians, this is an

eternal transformation able to withstand any outside pressures and even our own hearts desires. If one is born-again, they are a new creation in Christ and are supernaturally joined to another in Christ's new creation, the church.

3. Since this poem is organized into two distinct sections, that's how we will organize our study. The first section in verses 15-17 emphasizes the person and role of Christ in His original creation. While not dismissing or diminishing the first, the second section, in verses 18-20, emphasizes the person and role of Christ in His new creation. Keeping in mind two things:
 - A. First, in what is a great warning for the church today, the Colossian church had opened their doors along their hearts and minds to people taking shots at Jesus. The false teachers were minimizing or outright denying His position, character, power, and deity. Paul was equipping and challenging them to be vigilant in defending the hope that is within them; and
 - B. Second, the very personal nature of the Gospel for both Jesus and those contemplating or having been saved.

With those in mind, let's dig in further.

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III. Colossians 1:15-17: The Preeminence of Creator Jesus

1. While we know little of the early Gnostics theology, it seems clear that Paul was combating Gnostic beliefs that Jesus was a created being, an angel, and was therefore not God. Further, the generally held to a worldview emphasizing the material world as evil and the spiritual world as good.
2. Paul presents two stunning truths in the opening verse that we will look at in order.
 - A. For the Greeks, the word for image (*eikōn* - *aycon*) in v15 means something like an image on a coin. Yet, it can also mean, as Paul is referencing here, being of the same form or as

a living image (or manifestation) of the invisible God. Jesus is God incarnate. He is divine.

The invisible God became visibly knowable in the person of Jesus Christ. That is, divinity and humanity were blended together, in all their fullness, to dwell among mankind. God became like you and me without ceasing to be God. [Head explosion moment!].

The Gnostics attacks in this area would have emphasized a couple of things in their attempts to corrupt the bride of Christ, the church.

- i. They would have emphasized that God's creation, mankind, would never have the power, knowledge, nor wisdom to kill their "Creator", but this man the Colossae saints said was Lord was crucified by mankind.
- ii. They would have emphasized that God would never condescend to being something less than Himself by taking His spiritual self into the material, bodily world of mankind.
- iii. Finally, they would have emphasized the four theophanies in the Old Testament where Christ appeared as an angel of the Lord. Of course, this is a misrepresentation of Scripture as these appearances were by a preincarnate Christ.

Paul is also emphasizing here (and coming up as well) that the Christ is not some form of a lesser God. Among the many verses we can pick from, the authors of Hebrews, Philippians, and John offer insightful descriptions including:

³ who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
- Hebrews 1:3

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.
- Philippians 2:5–7

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?
- John 14:9

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- John 1:14

B. Second, moving into the latter half of v15, we read that Jesus is the “firstborn” over all creation. **This term, “firstborn”, has created a lot of firestorms over the years.** We tend to think of this in terms of order rather than rights and privileges. **Yet, there are numerous examples in the OT where those NOT firstborn in order were accorded the rank, priority, and position over others born ahead of them (in order) in their family (e.g., Isaac over Ishmael, Jacob over Esau, and David over his older brothers).**

- i. As the Colossians understanding would have been linked to their cultural context, Paul’s words would have immediately been understood. **Whether physical or spiritual, Christ is the firstborn over all creation.** Because this is one of the epicenters of the false teaching in view, Paul uses the next verses to “stick a fork” (did you hear that idiom?) in their arguments.

3. In verse 16-17, Paul further emphasizes Jesus’ preeminence over ALL things whether visible or invisible. **The heavens (including**

billions of galaxies), the earth, mankind, angels, demon's, natural laws, sun, rain, time, your DNA...Jesus is the firstborn over ALL. He possesses infinite power and infallible wisdom. **He is the Creator and it is He holding all of it together.** God's in charge and challenging Him is above everyone's paygrade...seriously!

A. Paul is leading them to a place that we speak of often here.

Many in the church would agree and have little trouble with the statements that Scripture is inspired, inerrant, and infallible.

Where the rub is often noted is when God insists that His word is authoritative. Many back away, ignore, rewrite, marginalize, project, or otherwise find a way to seemingly wrestle authority away from Him.

B. This tension between our free will and His power and plan is nothing new. **Mankind had historically sided with the devil in undermining Christ.** In that day, it was "Gnostics". **In our day, those with special knowledge have launched a host of attacks on the deity and authority of Christ, including:**

i. **Evolution:** Evolution is a religious philosophy and theology denying Jesus is the Creator God. **If evolution is true, the Bible, including Jesus' claims must be false.** Scientists promoting evolution have gone well beyond the boundaries of science in becoming prophets for their philosophical worldview.

ii. **The Nature and Severity of Sin:** God made us good and He loves us the way we are. Sounds sweet and it too often finds its roots in the church. **The righteous judgment and wrath of God are real.** Yet, whether outside or inside the church, too few are well acquainted with what the Bible teaches in this regard. **As a result, the standard is to think we are not so bad as that person OR since God loves me, I'm good, OR I will get serious about this later.** The bible teaches that sin is death or eternal separation from God. **We ought not be sugar coating the seriousness of sin in our lives or when speaking with others.**

- iii. **Deconstruction**: This movement is built upon the idea that the individual is capable of determining what God means AND what applies to them. It is placing one in the firstborn role exclusively held by Jesus. They pick and choose which things they like from Christianity and other worldviews while still calling themselves Christians. This movement has its own apostles and prophets bringing forth theories, organizing language, fermenting discord against Jesus, promoting political structures and views, and other tactics to first separate people from biblical truth and then reconstructs them with a competing worldview.
- iv. **NAR/5-Fold/7 Mountain Mandate/Dominion Theology Groups**¹: These four groupings or movements have become a dominant force within Christian circles. Because there is not one person or one governing authority it can be difficult to pin down a leadership group or church as being aligned with one of the named groups previously given. Many of these loosely affiliated groups share several tenets in common, including: (1) the church has failed to fulfill God's great commission mandate, (2) open theism, meaning God does not exactly know the future because He hasn't decided it, and (3) the restoration of the offices of prophets and apostles who, in partnership with God, will accomplish His unfolding will in bringing His kingdom to earth. While drawing on biblical language (emphases on **Ephesians 4:11-13**), the theology and practices of these interwoven movements translates into the unbiblical insertion of roles, responsibilities, knowledge, and authority to a select few having been anointed by God so that the church will reclaim dominion of creation as a colony of heaven, therein opening the door for Christ's return. In practice, these movements are Jesus + and they are often expressed by a local body via (1) the visible assignment

¹ <https://www.modernreformation.org/resources/essays/the-framing-of-a-movement-defining-the-new-apostolic-reformation>

of authoritative apostle's & prophets having the power and other giftings necessary to "more accurately" know and deliver God's will, (2) **emotion-laden worship, prayer, and language**, and (3) the initiation of intercessory prayer, healing, and deliverance ministries founded on man's power given by God versus God's power (e.g., "I bless you" versus "I pray God's blessing for you" or "I command the demons come out of you" versus "Demon, in the name and power of Jesus, I command you to come out").

C. In summary of verses 15-17, one commentator said: "They were created *in* him, because all the Father's counsels and activities (including those of creation) are centered in the Son; they were created *through* him, because he is the divine agent in creation; they were created *for* him, because he is the goal to which they all tend."² **We might further summarize this as...there is a definitive order to creation with all things created by and in submission to the Creator, Jesus Christ.**

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IV. **Colossians 1:18-20: The Preeminence of Redeemer Jesus**

1. Jesus is not just the Creator, He is the Redeemer. **As redeemer, He does not simply clean up the old you, but He gives each of His children a new heart and transformed mind.** Further, we are not creations under the old covenant, but under the new. **As "new creations" the Lord places us into a living spiritual organism, He calls His church and His bride.**
2. Paul also wrote about this new organism in **Romans 12:4-5** and extensively in **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**. **Combined, these passages tell us we are as one body, with Christ as the head, supplying life, offering vision, providing direction and control toward a supernatural vitality in being about His work for His eternal purposes and glory.** That is, for the Christ-follower new life

² F. F. Bruce, *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*, The New International Commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1984), 64.

comes from Christ, their purpose comes from Christ, their knowledge, wisdom, and power comes from Christ, their unity is to be in Christ...for just as He was preeminent in the old covenant, He is preeminent in the new!

All this to say, Jesus was and is in charge. It's NOT another human being claiming some form of divinity, it's NOT Jesus plus the law, it's NOT Jesus plus today's apostles and prophets reviving Gnosticism with a modern-day appeal, nor anything or anyone other than the name above all names...Jesus is the One in charge! He has all authority. And that is the rub. How mankind bristles at NOT being his or her own god.

3. While Christ's preeminence along with His headship over His church are very much in view, so is the centrality of the Gospel. There are several things God draws our attention toward in this regard:

A. First in v18, we note that Jesus is "the beginning, the firstborn of the dead". Jesus was not the first to have been raised from the dead. This miraculous feat had been done previously...yet there was a great difference. All the other resurrections were from those born, died, and raised again in the flesh, only to die again. But NOT Jesus. The incarnate God was made flesh, but rose again in a spiritual body to eternal life in defeating death.

B. In verse 19, as though Jesus' sacrificial death was somehow not enough for the Colossae saints to see the lengths God went to reveal Himself and restore His people, Paul gives a sense of the intimacy of the Godhead while affirming Jesus deity. In this, Paul's words directly warred against the heretical teaching of the Gnostics claiming that Jesus was an emanation of God, but NOT actually God.

C. Because God is spirit, the Gnostics denied that God was knowable in the physical realm, so they conceived of a great hierarchy of spiritual beings between God and the man named Jesus. Paul's use of the word *plerōma* for "fulness" was no

accident. The Gnostics used this word to describe the sum of the parts making up God's character, power, attributes, and will. Here Paul was making clear that God the Father and God the Son are continually One in the fullest sense of that word...meaning when one sees the Son, you see the totality of the essence and power of the Father as One dwells in the other.

The conclusion Paul was leading the Colossian church (and us) to accept is Jesus is God. You need NOT seek any other NOR fall prey to the false teachings you are hearing.

D. There are several notable things we can draw from V20 in rounding out the Gospel message in today's passage:

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- i. God's holiness brought forth punishment. God's love brought forth forgiveness.
- ii. Mankind fell and creation was corrupted. Mankind has and is warring against the Living God.
- iii. For peace to prevail, mankind must be reconciled to our God and Jesus bought this peace/this reconciliation at the cross with the shedding of His blood for our offenses against God.
- iv. Imagine all that we have done and He invites us to be reconciled to Himself. What great a love the Father has for us! How faithful and true His promises are!

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V. Closing: No Other God

1. No other god defeated death. No other god took on flesh and died for those He created. No other God cared enough to restore His creation. No other god made the path both knowable and navigable, much less indwells and guides His people to their eternal destiny with Him. Paul's teaching and these truths are

meaningless unless we recognize and receive Jesus as our dwelling place – so, the question is, who do you say He is?

A. If you have never confessed Him as Lord, please know Jesus loves you and is offering His hand of peace. [Will you take it?](#)

B. Believers, do you live as though you are His?

[Pray these two things]

Colossians 1:15-20 Jesus And No Other

I. Introduction: Idiom Central

II. Colossians 1:15-20: Profound Poetry

- Jesus is Creator in both the old and new covenant

III. Colossians 1:15-17: The Preeminence of Creator Jesus

- From before time Jesus is fully God.
- Jesus has all authority over all of creation.
- Four examples of groups and/or philosophies at war with Jesus today.

Additional Scripture References: He 1:3; Phil 2:5-7; Jn 14:9, 1:14; Eph 4:11-13

IV. Colossians 1:18-20: The Preeminence of Redeemer Jesus

- Jesus is our rescue plan...He invites all people to be reconciled to Himself and to be a part of His church for His purposes and glory.

Additional Scripture References: Ro 12:4-5; 1 Co 12:12-27

V. Closing: No Other God

5-Day Devotional

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus The Creator and Redeemer

Day 1: The Image of the Invisible God

Reading: Col 1:15-17

Devotional: Today we focus on Jesus as the image of the invisible God. In a world filled with idols and false representations of divinity, Christ stands unique as the perfect revelation of God's nature. As you read, reflect on how Jesus makes the unseen God visible and knowable to us.

How does this truth impact your understanding of God's character? Consider ways you can more fully reflect Christ's image in your daily life, making the invisible God visible to those around you through your actions and attitudes.

Day 2: Christ's Preeminence in Creation

Reading: John 1:1-14

Devotional: Today's reading reinforces Christ's role as Creator and His preeminence over all things. As you meditate on these verses, consider the vastness of creation and the intricate details of life - all held together by Christ.

How does recognizing Jesus as the source and sustainer of everything change your perspective on your daily challenges? Take time to marvel at His power and wisdom, and ask Him to help you trust His sovereignty over every aspect of your life, including those areas where you struggle to relinquish control.

Day 3: The New Creation in Christ

Reading: 2 Cor 5:17-21

Devotional: Paul's emphasis on Christ as the head of the new creation invites us to consider our own transformation in Him. As you read, reflect on what it means to be a "new creation" in Christ. How has your life changed since coming to faith? Are there areas where you're still clinging to old patterns or beliefs?

Pray for God to continue His renewing work in you and consider one specific way you can live out your new identity in Christ today.

Day 4: Reconciliation Through the Cross**Reading: Rom 5:6-11**

Devotional: Today we focus on Christ's work of reconciliation through the cross. As you read, meditate on the depth of God's love demonstrated in Christ's sacrifice. Consider the magnitude of our separation from God due to sin, and the incredible gift of peace with God now available through Jesus. How does this reconciliation impact your daily walk with God?

Take time to thank God for His initiative in restoring relationship with us, and pray for opportunities to be an agent of reconciliation in your relationships and community.

Day 5: Christ's Supremacy and Our Response**Reading: Phil 2:5-11**

Devotional: Our final reading emphasizes Christ's supreme position and the appropriate response of all creation. As you reflect on these verses, consider how your life aligns with the recognition of Christ's lordship. Are there areas where you struggle to submit to His authority? How can you cultivate a heart posture that mirrors the heavenly worship described here? Pray for God to deepen your reverence for Christ and to empower you to live in a way that consistently honors His supremacy in all things.

Small Group Study Guide

Matthew 21:18-46

The Price of Pride

Opening Prayer: Thank the Lord for His goodness and His word. Reflect on Christ's majesty and worship Him.

Key Takeaways: Query the group for takeaways first...you may stay with one or more of those.

1. Jesus is the image of the invisible God, fully divine and fully human.
2. Christ is preeminent over all creation as its Creator and Sustainer.
3. Jesus is the head of the church and the firstborn from the dead.
4. The fullness of God dwells in Christ, reconciling all things to Himself through the cross.

Discussion Questions: Did the Holy Spirit prompt any questions with you? Start with those.

1. What does it mean that Jesus is "the image of the invisible God"? How does this impact our understanding of who God is?
2. The sermon mentions several modern challenges to Christ's deity and authority (Evolution, Deconstruction, NAR/5-Fold movements). Have you encountered any of these? How can we respond biblically?
3. How does understanding Jesus as both Creator and Redeemer change our perspective on our relationship with Him?
4. Discuss the concept of Christ being the "firstborn over all creation." How does this relate to His authority and our submission to Him?
5. What are some ways we might unintentionally diminish Christ's authority in our lives? How can we guard against this?
6. How does the idea of being part of Christ's "new creation" impact your daily life and choices?
7. The sermon emphasizes that Jesus is "in charge." In what areas of your life do you find it challenging to fully submit to His authority?

Practical Applications: Query the group for applications first...you may explore one or more of those.

1. This week, intentionally acknowledge Christ's authority in a specific area where you've been resistant. Journal about the experience.
2. Research one of the modern challenges to Christ's deity mentioned in the sermon. Prepare to share what you learned with the group next week.
3. Meditate on Colossians 1:15-20 daily this week. Write down any new insights you gain about Christ's nature and role.
4. Identify an area in your life where you need reconciliation. Pray for Christ's peace to work in that situation and take a step towards restoration.
5. Share the gospel with someone this week, emphasizing Christ's unique role as both Creator and Redeemer.

Closing Prayer: Thank God for revealing Himself through Jesus Christ. Ask for help in fully submitting to Christ's authority and living as part of His new creation.

Discussion Questions

Matthew 21:18-46

The Price of Pride

1. How does understanding Jesus as both Creator and Redeemer impact your daily life and decision-making?
2. In what ways might modern society be creating its own 'idioms' or belief systems that challenge the supremacy of Christ, similar to the Gnostics of Paul's time?
3. How can believers navigate the tension between God's authority and human free will in a way that honors Christ's preeminence?
4. What are some practical ways we can ensure we're not falling into a 'Jesus plus' theology in our own spiritual lives?
5. How does the concept of being part of Christ's 'new creation' change your perspective on your identity and purpose?
6. In what areas of your life might you be unconsciously diminishing Christ's authority, and how can you address this?
7. How does the idea of Jesus being the 'firstborn over all creation' challenge or affirm your understanding of His nature?
8. What are some modern-day examples of attempts to 'reconstruct' Christianity, and how can believers discern and respond to these movements?
9. How does the image of Christ as the head of the church body influence your view of church leadership and your role within the church?
10. In light of Christ's preeminence, how can believers effectively communicate the exclusivity of the Gospel in a pluralistic society?

Dinner Conversation Starters

Matthew 21:18-46

The Price of Pride

1. Image of God

The sermon mentions that Jesus is the image of the invisible God. How do you think we, as humans, are created in the image of God, and how can we reflect His image in our daily lives?

2. Creation and New Creation

Discuss the concept of Jesus being preeminent in both the original creation and the new creation. How does knowing that Jesus is central to both impact the way we view our current world and our personal faith journey?

3. Challenging False Ideas

The sermon talks about the Gnostics and other false teachings. Have you ever encountered ideas or beliefs that challenge your understanding of Jesus? How do you handle such challenges to your faith?

4. Authority of Jesus

The sermon emphasizes the authority of Jesus over all things. In what ways does acknowledging Jesus's authority impact the choices we make at home, school, or work?

5. Reconciliation and Peace

Discuss the idea of Jesus bringing reconciliation and peace through His sacrifice. How can we apply this principle of peace and reconciliation in our relationships, whether with family, friends, or others in our community?

Family Conversation Guide for Children & Early Teens

Matthew 21:18-46

The Price of Pride

AGES 5-7: SIMPLIFYING THE MESSAGE APPLICATION POINTS

1. **Understanding Jesus's Image**: Help children understand that Jesus is God's Son and that He is God.

Discussion Question: How can you show love to your friends like Jesus shows us love?

2. **Kindness in Social Interactions**: Encourage acts of kindness, reflecting Jesus's love in their friend circles.

Discussion Question: Who are some people we should listen to, and why is it important to follow their guidance?

3. **Obedience to Authority**: Teach the importance of listening to parents and teachers as a way of respecting authority, just as Jesus is Lord over all.

Discussion Question: How would you explain who Jesus is to a friend who doesn't know Him?

AGES 8-12: BUILDING UNDERSTANDING APPLICATION POINTS

1. **Reflecting God's Image in Digital Spaces**: Discuss how what they post online should reflect kindness and honesty.

Discussion Question: What are some ways you can show others online that you are a follower of Jesus?

2. **Discernment of Ideas**: Teach them to recognize and question things that don't align with Jesus's teachings, especially in media.

Discussion Question: Have you ever watched or read something that didn't feel like it was teaching what Jesus would want? How did you handle that?

3. **Peacemaking in Relationships**: Encourage resolving conflicts with friends or siblings peacefully, mirroring Jesus's reconciliation.

Discussion Question: When you disagree with a friend, how can you work to find peace and understanding?

AGES 11-15: DEEPENING THE CONNECTION APPLICATION POINTS

1. **Authority:** Explore acknowledging Jesus's authority in their decision-making in their life. They make the decisions, but should submit to Christ's authority and follow Him.

Discussion Question: How does recognizing Jesus's authority impact the choices you make?

2. **Critical Thinking Online:** Encourage evaluating whether social media influences align with Christian values.

Discussion Question: In what ways can you challenge yourself to question and critically assess the content you consume online?

3. **Promoting Reconciliation:** Advocate for being a peacemaker in their social circles, understanding the lasting impact of healthy relationships.

Discussion Question: When you see friends in conflict, what are some ways you can help bring reconciliation without taking sides?

Tips for Parents

- Be patient and listen: Give your child time to think and respond.
- Relate to everyday life: Use real-life examples and stories familiar to your child to make abstract concepts more tangible.
- Encourage questions: Let your son or daughter know it's okay to ask questions, even if things don't make sense right away.
- Share personal insights: Tell a personal story about a time you experienced these themes, adapting as needed for age appropriateness.

Family Conversation Guide for Gen Z

Matthew 21:18-46

The Price of Pride

1. Having a Christ Like Image

Application: In group settings, whether at school, sports teams, or clubs, strive to reflect the image of Christ by being inclusive, compassionate, and just, remembering Colossians 3:12 which says, "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience."

Scenario: When you see someone being left out or bullied, stand up for them and include them in your group activities.

2. Authority and Identity Online

Application: Acknowledge Jesus's ultimate authority in how you present yourself online. Reflect on Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Scenario: Before posting anything online, ask yourself if it represents who you are in Christ and if it honors God. Consider the impact it has on your identity and others who view it.

3. Discerning Ideas

Application: Apply discernment when engaging with media, asking whether the ideas presented align with biblical truth. Hebrews 5:14 highlights the importance of distinguishing good from evil: "But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil."

Scenario: When watching a show or reading content that challenges your beliefs, discuss with trusted adults or mentors how it aligns or diverges from biblical teachings.

4. Promoting Peace and Reconciliation in Relationships

Application: Be an agent of peace, promoting reconciliation in conflicts and embodying Romans 12:18: "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Scenario: When a conflict arises with friends or family, take the initiative to address misunderstandings and foster dialogue that leads to healing and unity.

5. Rooted Identity in Social Influence

Application: Stand firm in your identity in Christ when peer pressure challenges your values, taking inspiration from 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Scenario: When you're pressured to conform to behaviors or values that don't align with your faith, remind yourself of your identity in Christ and choose to act in ways that reflect His teachings. Discuss your stance with friends who share your values for mutual support.

These points aim to empower Gen Z to live out their faith genuinely and courageously in various aspects of their daily lives, reflecting Biblical integrity, compassion, and steadfastness.