Small Group Guide - "Jesus Is Supreme"

Colossians 1:15–20

OVERVIEW

This session explores the second article of the Apostles' Creed: "I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord." Drawing from Colossians 1:15–20, the sermon challenges us to understand who Jesus truly is — not merely a teacher or historical figure, but the visible image of the invisible God, the Lord over all creation, the head of the church, and the one who reconciles us to God through his blood.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God. The world may try to reduce him to a moral teacher or prophet, but Scripture is clear about his divine nature and identity.
- Everything in creation was made through Jesus, for Jesus, and is held together by Jesus. Our existence is not accidental — it is purposeful and personal.
- Jesus is the head of the church. The church is not a building or a weekly routine. It is a living body, and every member has a role to play in serving Christ and his kingdom.
- Jesus reconciles us to God. Without his sacrifice, the separation between humanity and God would be permanent. His blood on the cross made peace possible.
- If Jesus is supreme over all creation, he must be supreme in our individual lives. Anything placed above him — work, comfort, distraction, even family — becomes a substitute for the rightful Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening

1. What is one thing from the sermon that stayed with you after the service ended? Why do you think it stood out?
2. The Apostles' Creed has been used for centuries as a summary of core Christian belief. Before this series, how familiar were you with it? What do you think is the value of having a shared statement of faith?

Digging Into the Text — Colossians 1:15–20

3. The sermon emphasized that Colossians 1:15 describes Jesus as the visible image of the invisible God. What does it mean to you personally that God made himself visible and knowable through Jesus? How does that change the way you approach your relationship with God?

4. Genesis 1:26 uses the word "us" when God speaks about creating humanity. How does understanding the triune nature of God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — affect the way you read the creation account and understand your own identity as someone made in God's image?

5. Colossians 1:17 teaches that Jesus holds all creation together. The sermon described this as more than a physical reality — it is a spiritual one as well. In what areas of your life do you most need to trust that Jesus is holding things together right now?

6. The sermon described Jesus as the head of the church and the church as his body. What does it look like in a practical, everyday sense for a church to function as a body rather than just a gathering of individuals?

Personal Reflection

7. The speaker asked the congregation to look at themselves in their phone cameras and consider that the same God who created galaxies created them personally. How often do you take time to reflect on your own worth and identity as someone created by and for Jesus? What gets in the way of that?

8. The sermon stated: "If Jesus is supreme over everything, he must be supreme in me." What is one area of your life where Jesus does not currently have first place? What would it look like to surrender that area to him?

9. The speaker described himself as a "shallow Christian" — not meaning a shallow believer, but someone who does not need deep theological argument to believe in a God who personally transformed his life. How would you describe your own faith journey in a sentence or two? Is your story something you feel equipped to share with someone who does not know Jesus?

10. The sermon closed with a challenge about sharing the gospel. Do you feel confident enough in your understanding of who Jesus is to share that with a stranger? What would help you grow in that confidence?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

This Week, Choose One:

- Set aside five to ten minutes each day to read a passage from Colossians. Pay attention to how Paul describes Jesus and write down one observation each day. Bring your notes to the next group meeting.
- Identify one person in your life who does not know Jesus. Pray for them by name every day this week. Ask God to open a door for a natural conversation about faith.
- Look at the people in your church or small group differently this week. Ask yourself what role you are currently playing in the body of Christ and whether there is a need you could meet that you have been putting off.
- Spend time in honest prayer about one area of your life where Jesus is not currently supreme. Tell him specifically what you are holding back and ask him to help you release it.
- Memorize Colossians 1:17. Reflect on what it means that Jesus holds all things together — including your current circumstances.

CLOSING PRAYER PROMPTS

Close your group time by praying together. Consider including the following:

- Gratitude for the specific and personal way God created each person in the room
- Honesty about areas where Jesus has not been given first place
- Prayers for those in the group who are walking through grief, uncertainty, or struggle
- A request for boldness to share the gospel with someone outside the group this week

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MEMORY VERSE

Colossians 1:17 — Jesus existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.