

SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Check out your notes from this week's sermon. What stood out?
Were you challenged? Anything you found difficult or disagreed with?

INTRO

When you hear lots of people claiming they have the truth about something important, how do you decide who to trust?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

- What is the significance of Christ being the head of the church? What tends to take place in churches where Jesus isn't the main focus?
- Christ's resurrection makes two things possible: For men to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-4) and for our bodies to be raised from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:22-23). Why is denying the bodily resurrection heresy and not just a small error?
- Read Isaiah 53:10-12 in the NIV, ESV, NKJV and CSB. God was pleased to reconcile all things through Christ's blood (Col. 1:19-20), and it pleased Him to crush Him for our salvation (Isa. 53:10-12). How do you personally wrestle with the tension that the cross is both the most horrific act of injustice in history and the greatest act of God's love and joy?

Key Theological Term: The "Hypostatic Union."

States that Jesus is truly God and truly man in one person, without mixing, changing, dividing, or separating His two natures.

Q. Why is Jesus being fully God and fully man essential for our salvation and what would be lost if either nature were denied?

A. If Jesus were not truly God, He could not save us. If Jesus were not truly man, He could not represent us.

TAKEAWAYS

CHRIST EXPRESSES HIS SUPREMACY THROUGH THE CHURCH

Matthew 16:17-19; Ephesians 3:10-11; Romans 1:16-17

How does your weekly schedule, family routines, and personal sacrifice reveal what you actually believe about the importance of Christ's church?

How are you actively building up the church through serving, teaching, or loving others—rather than just receiving?

How can a confident hope in the gospel give you strength when you suffer for the sake of Jesus?

CHRIST MUST BE SUPREME IN THE CHURCH'S PREACHING

Acts 2:36; 1 Corinthians 2:2; 15:3-4

When you share the gospel, do you focus on Christ as a person's greatest need or try to offer what you think they want instead?

How do you preach Christ to someone while still caring enough to speak in a way they can truly grasp?

What is the danger of losing a focus on Christ in our preaching, teaching, and conversations?

Who is someone you have given up on spiritually?

How does recognizing Christ's supremacy change the way you pray for and pursue them?