

Saint Paul's Baptist Church

Weekday Study Notes

W E L C O M E T O S A I N T P A U L ' S

Saint Paul's Baptist Church exists to empower people to grow into all that God created them to be. We do that by finding needs and meeting them, finding problems, and solving them, finding hurts and healing them.

G E T C O N N E C T E D

God created us for community. To volunteer, participate in a small group, or would get more information about upcoming events, visit myspbc.org or download our free mobile app today at myspbc.info/app.

N E E D P R A Y E R ?

We are honored to pray with you or for you. Join us during or after worship services for personal prayer at myspbc.info/prayerroom. You may also submit a prayer request anytime at myspbc.info/prayer.

JESUS IS GREATER: A STUDY IN COLOSSIANS

Today's Lesson: The Preeminent Christ

Colossians 1:15-18: New International Version

¹⁵The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

We are continuing today in this series of teachings based on the New Testament book of Colossians entitled, “*Jesus is Greater.*” You may remember from last week that we focused on Paul’s intercession for this church in Colossae. He had never been there, yet he carried them in his heart, and upon hearing the report of their challenges from Epaphras, he offered a prayer for knowledge, and a prayer about conduct.

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Specifically, he prayed that God would empower these believers in the Colossians to have a worthy walk, a knowledgeable walk, a powerful walk, and a thankful walk. Today, we pick up his teaching with the preeminent Christ and his reconciling work in the world.

1. **CHRIST IS SUPREME IN _____ (v.15a)**
(John 14:6, 1 Timothy 1:17, Hebrews 11:27, John 1:18, Proverbs 8:22-31, Wisdom of Solomon 7:24-26, Hebrews 1:3, Genesis 1:26-27)
2. **CHRIST IS SUPREME IN _____ (vv. 15b-17)**
(John 1:1, Psalms 89:27, Exodus 4:22, Philippians 2:11, Romans 11:36, Romans 12:1)
3. **CHRIST IS SUPREME IN _____ (v. 18)**
(1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 15:20)



Discussion Guide:

Icebreaker:

Share one HIGH you've had this week and one LOW

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean that Christ is the image of the invisible God? Now that you know what it means to be the firstborn in biblical culture, what do these verses tell us about Jesus as the firstborn of all creation?

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2. What difference does it make to recognize that not only was everything made *by* Jesus but also *through* Him and *for* Him? How does this fact change the way you look at creation?
3. What does Paul say is under Christ's authority? How does Christ's authority over your life affect you on a daily basis? How does it give you confidence, or hope, or assurance? What are some things that may seem as if they're not under Christ's authority?
4. What comfort comes from knowing that even the invisible spiritual realities and everything in this world are under Christ's power, even if it doesn't feel like it? What *conviction* comes from this same reality—that Christ is the rightful King over everything as its creator?

CHALLENGE: What is one “a-ha” moment you had in our group discussion today. Note it and write it down. If you applied your learning from this week's message, how would the next week be different for you?

SERVE: How is God calling us to live out this lesson this week? As individuals? As a group?

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g., answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.