

Study 2: Acknowledging Jesus as Lord

Read: Colossians 1:15–23

Memory Verse: Colossians 1:22

The Big Idea

Jesus isn't just someone we believe in. He is Lord over everything, including our lives.

Start Here

Everyone has an idea of who Jesus is.

Some people think of Jesus as a good teacher. Others picture Him as a kind person who wants everyone to be happy. Some see Him primarily as someone who came to help people who are hurting.

But the Bible gives us a much bigger picture.

Jesus isn't merely a good example or a helpful teacher.

Jesus is Lord.

Paul wanted the Christians in Colossae to understand exactly who they were following. Their faith wasn't built around a philosophy or a list of good teachings. It was built around the person of Jesus Christ.

Read Colossians 1:15–23

Paul describes Jesus as the image of the invisible God. Everything was created through Him and for Him. He existed before everything else, and everything holds together in Him.

That's a pretty big picture of Jesus.

Sometimes we make Jesus small enough to fit comfortably into our lives.

But Paul reminds us that **Jesus is bigger than our lives.**

He is Lord over creation, our relationships, our possessions, our plans, our future, our struggles, and our goals.

And yet, this incredibly powerful Jesus came to earth as a human being and gave His life to reconcile sinners to God.

The same Jesus who created everything is the Jesus who willingly went to the cross for us.

Talk About It

1. What stands out to you most about the way Paul describes Jesus in this passage?
2. What is the difference between believing that Jesus is Savior and actually treating Him as Lord?

Live It Out

Colossians 1:18 says that Jesus should "come to have first place in everything."

That's a challenging statement.

Following Jesus isn't simply something we add to our lives. **Jesus wants to be at the center of our lives.**

Take a few minutes and each answer this question:

"What is one area of my life where I need to give Jesus first place?"

Don't try to solve everything at once. Choose one area.

This could be your friendships, sports, school, money, your phone, your future, your reputation, your time, or something else.

Then decide on **one specific step** you can take this week to surrender that area to Jesus.

For example:

- If it's your friendships, pray about the people you're influencing and the people influencing you.
- If it's your phone, consider setting aside intentional time each day without it.
- If it's your future, spend time asking God what He wants rather than only asking what you want.
- If it's your reputation, practice choosing what honors Jesus even when it isn't popular.

Then **revisit this conversation next week**. One of the best things a parent can do isn't simply to have a great conversation once, but to lovingly follow up and ask, *"How did that go?"*

Pray Together

Memory Verse

Colossians 1:22

"But now he has reconciled you by his physical body through his death, to present you holy, faultless, and blameless before him."