



# COLOSSIANS SERIES PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL PLAN

## WEEK 2

*Each week through this series, we are including five personal devotional readings followed by a couple of questions you can think on through the day. Monday is a day to set aside to read through the book of Colossians. The rest of the week we will look at two or three verses to contemplate more deeply and personally. We hope you enjoy digging into this important book over the next 10 weeks, and we pray God will use these short devotional questions to give you deeper insight and that through it, the gospel will be “bearing fruit and increasing” in you daily (Colossians 1:6).*

**Monday Reading:** Read through Colossians in one sitting.

*Devotional Question—What is something new that you picked up from your reading of Colossians this week? How can that thought be an encouragement throughout your day?*

**Tuesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:9-11

*Devotional Questions—Do you see the connection between growth in knowledge and obedient action in your own life? Why are both important?*

*From these verses, what does spiritual maturity look like in the mind of Paul? Do you see those things in your life?*

**Wednesday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:12-14

*Devotional Questions—How has the Father qualified believers to share in the inheritance of the saints in light? What does that mean?*

*Can you express words of gratitude for the work of redemption in your life today? Let that carry you today.*

**Thursday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:15-17

*Devotional Questions—According to these verses, who is Jesus? Say these words. Pray these words. Worship Him with these words.*

*How does this statement about Jesus give you comfort today?*

**Friday Devotional:** Read Colossians 1:18-20

*Devotional Questions—According to these verses, who is Jesus? Say these words. Pray these words. Worship Him with these words.*

*How does this statement about Jesus give you comfort today?*





# COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FROM 9/19/21

### SERMON SUMMARY

Our text this week is all about Jesus. Likely a worship hymn used by the early church, Paul includes these words in his letter to the Colossians, because they so beautifully describe the work of Jesus both in creation and in redemption. Paul wants his readers to have a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and to be more aware of His absolute supremacy in all things. This hymn was an instructive element in the church's worship intended to be read or maybe even sung regularly by the church, so that the church would be equipped with an accurate expression of who Jesus is. In our study this week, we look more deeply at this ancient Christological hymn. Let's allow these words to shape our faith in Christ, to inform our minds about His greatness, and to fill our hearts with expressive joy as we contemplate and respond to our Creator and Redeemer.

**Key Passage:** Colossians 1:15-20

*Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.*

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

**KNOW**—Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone. *The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.*

*What is one way God is challenging you to trust Him this week?*

*What are some ways you have experienced God answering your prayers lately?*

*Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?*

**GROW**—Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

*If we approach this passage as a hymn, as some sort of poetic expression of worship, we can see two stanzas 15-17 and 18-20. What do each of the stanzas emphasize about Jesus?*

*In what way is Jesus as the "image of the invisible God" different from other human beings who were created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27)?*

*What does it mean that He is the "firstborn of all creation?" Does this mean He was created? (To answer this, we need to understand "firstborn" as describing "position" in a family rather than chronological order of being created).*

*The hymn says that Jesus was the Creator of all things, and it emphasizes specifically the span of Christ's authority. In what way is this an expression of Jesus' deity?*

*How significant is it that things were created "for Him?" How does that emphasize His supremacy over all things?*

*What does it mean that Jesus is the "firstborn of the dead?" How does this relate to His resurrection? How does this make Him "preeminent"?*

*What does it mean if the "fullness of God was pleased to dwell" in Christ?*

**GO**—Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

*If you really process through these statements about Jesus, what should be your response?*

*Do these statements about Jesus give you the words to share Him with others who may not know Him? How would you start that conversation?*

*Based on this passage, what would you say to someone who thinks they can get to Heaven on their own merit?*

