



Christ Over All - Week 2 (August 23)

Read **Colossians 1:15-20** and discuss the following.

This letter was originally written to help the believers in Colossae see Jesus more clearly. What are the dangers of not knowing and understanding Him rightly? In what ways do we distort a clear view of who Jesus really is?

How does Jesus image the invisible God (**v.15**)? Give some examples of how we can learn about God the Father through God the Son. What does Christ's life and ministry teach us about God's nature and character?

The term for "firstborn" in **verse 15** refers to one's rank, honor, or supreme position (see **Ps. 89:27**), therefore, it is not suggesting that Jesus was somehow created. What other clues are found in the text showing Christ over and above all of creation?

Paul describes how all of creation was made "by" Jesus, "through" Jesus, and "for" Jesus (**v.16**). What does it mean for you personally to know Christ has both made you and is guiding you toward a bigger purpose?

Jesus is not only the Creator of all, but also the Sustainer of all (**v.17**). What are the universal implications of this truth? Think of a time when Christ has held you together? When (what times and situations) are you prone to coming unraveled? How do you think this practically works? That is, what does Christ use to hold us together?

According to **v.18-20**, what was the purpose of Christ's resurrection and what did it achieve? In what ways does Jesus have first place in your life? What areas to you need to submit to His preeminence?

How might regularly reflecting on this Christ hymn affect your daily life in the short-term? How should these truths impact our longterm planning and pursuits? Explain.

How does this passage of Scripture most comfort and/or convict you personally?