

Small Group Study

Seeing Christ as the Supreme Creator

From the sermon series, "Christ in You"



The first page of Colossians in a manuscript from the 12th century. It gives its title as **προς κολοσσαεις**, "to the Colossians".

SCRIPTURES

Have volunteers read the following scriptures:

Colossians 1:15-16

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1-18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

Icebreakers

Use the questions below to help people open up and to focus your meeting. It is very helpful to go around in a circle with the leader going first. (Remember if you have new members or guests you should take time to introduce everyone.)

1. What is your full name? Is there a meaning behind any of your names?

2. Do you have a nickname? Where did the name come from?

3. What is one of the weirdest things you've ever seen? Tell us about it.



3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. 6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" 16 From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

QUESTIONS

1. Why does John's gospel begin "In the beginning" rather than at Jesus' birth?
2. What facts about "the Word" can you find in verses 1-5? Verses 10-18?
3. From the image of "receiving" someone (v. 12), how would you explain what faith is about? What is the result of this type of faith?
4. From this passage, how can a person come to know God?
5. What does John's emphasis on the pre-existent, creative Christ mean to you?
6. What evidence have you seen in your life that gives proof that, in addition to the visible physical world, there is an invisible spiritual realm that exists as well? When have you seen these two worlds intersect?
7. When have you looked at the life and character of Jesus and used Him to reset your own moral compass?
8. Are there areas in your life where you need to do this? In what areas do you feel you need to become more Christ-like?
9. Heb. 10:24 reads, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." Col. 1:28 reads, "We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ." Take time to pray for those who want help in their spiritual growth. Let the group hold accountable anyone who wishes to take steps toward becoming more like Christ in a particular area of their life.

God bless,

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