

### Discussion Guide

*Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!*

#### Open

This week Pastor Don examines the first chapter of Colossians to help us understand why Jesus is more powerful, more capable, and more to be praised than anyone (or anything) else in all of creation. The reality is that Jesus is completely supreme over all, and in our passage today Paul goes to great lengths to make sure we understand just how deeply His sovereignty is woven into both the visible and invisible nature of the universe. As we start to dive in to our study, get discussion started in your group by asking everyone to tell who comes to their mind when they think of greatness and why...

#### BIG THOUGHT

Because Jesus is more powerful than anything else in the universe, He has the power to forgive us, change us, and keep us safe with Him both now and after we die.

1. Read Colossians 1:15-17. What is Jesus' relationship to God? What is His relationship to Creation? What images come to your mind when you read that Jesus "holds all creation together"? How can discoveries made through microscopes and telescopes add to our appreciation of Jesus' power? Have you ever thought of Jesus in these ways before? Explain.
2. Now read v. 18. What relationship does Jesus have to the church? In what practical ways should this be evident? What significance of Jesus' resurrection does Paul point out in the second half of the verse? And who else will rise from the dead in the same way (never to die again)? Share your thoughts with the group...

3. Read v. 19-20. What incredible action did God take in order to reconcile us to himself? (v. 19) The word translated "fullness" here means "completely" - how does understanding this help explain why Jesus is the only way to God? What do you think Paul means when he says that God reconciled "everything" to himself through Jesus? (v. 20) And how does this connect to v. 17?
4. Read another of Paul's explanations about Jesus' power and divinity in Colossians 2:8-10. What "empty philosophies" in our culture today can you identify? (v. 8) Have you ever known anyone who ended up being led away from Christ because they trusted in them? Share what happened. On what basis is Jesus unique (see v. 9)? How can that help us put our trust completely in Him?
5. Now read Hebrews 1:1-3. How do these verses echo the Colossians passages? How are they different? What does a position at the right hand of the King imply (see Matthew 20:20-21)?

#### Take it Further

Spend time talking with God and thank Jesus for who He is and all that He has done for you! Then pray for the people around you who don't yet know Him...

#### Daily Verse Readings

Day 1: John 10:30

Day 2: Philippians 2:5-7

Day 3: John 1:14

Day 4: John 8:58

Day 5: Revelation 1:17-18

Day 6: John 20:28-29

Memory Verses: Colossians 1:19-20



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