

Growth Teams

Week Beginning
Sunday 14th June 2015

Going deeper

John's gospel was written so that 'you may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.' (John 20:31). Most of the gospel tells stories from Jesus's life and records Jesus's teaching. The very start, however, presents Jesus using cosmic terminology similar to Colossians 1.

Read John 1:1-18

5. What similarities and connections are there between John 1:1-18 and Colossians 1:15-20?
6. What things does John 1 tell us about Jesus that are not in Colossians 1?
7. Colossians describes our reconciliation as a transformation from being God's enemies to those who are holy etc. How does John describe our reconciliation? (vs. 12-13)
8. Colossians describes Jesus as the 'image of the invisible God'. How does John expand on that idea? (vs. 14,18)
9. A friend asks, 'Where in the Bible does it say Jesus is God?' How would you decide which of these two passages to start with?

Now turn over and do 'Applying it to our lives'.

Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday. If you are not already in a Growth Team, now is a great opportunity to give one a try.

This week is the second on our series on Colossians and the importance of being 'rooted in Christ.'



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

What's special about Jesus?

Colossians 1:15-23 (page 1182)

Space to take notes on the talk

1. _____ rooted in Christ

2. _____ rooted in Christ

3. _____ rooted in Christ

Starter question

- What scene from nature do you find the most awe inspiring?

Responding to the talk

1. What in this week's talk most provoked, challenged or encouraged you?
2. Read Colossians 1:15-17
 - a. What phrases in verses 15-16 suggest Jesus is 'before all things' (vs. 17)?
 - b. Why is Jesus not just the first part of Creation?
 - c. How do these verses encourage us in an uncertain world?
3. Read Colossians 1:18-20
 - a. What according to these verses was the purpose of the cross?
 - b. Which phrases in these verses describe Jesus's continuing role?
 - c. How do these verses help determine our church priorities?
4. Read Colossians 1:21-23
 - a. What event has changed our status before God?
 - b. How is verse 22 a great assurance?
 - c. How should we respond to the warning in verse 23?

If there is time, you may like to do the 'Going deeper' questions over the page. Otherwise please just jump to questions 10 and 11.

Applying it to our lives

10. How can we ensure that this powerful description of who Christ is becomes rooted in our hearts, so that it transforms our lives?
11. Which aspect of who Jesus is and what he has done will most encourage our non-Christian friends to start being drawn to the person of Jesus?