**LifeGroup Study**

**YOU’RE RICHER THAN YOU THINK**

**Jesus is Perfect Theology**

**2022-05-01**

**Participant Notes**

**OVERVIEW:**

Welcome back to our series, You’re Richer Than You Think. This series is a walk through the book of Colossians. This week will look at Colossians 1:15-23, where we’ll learn that Jesus is the image of the invisible God and that through Jesus God has reconciled all things to himself. As His followers, we can trust that peace has been made and continue in the faith. Our hope is that this week we would experience the awe of Jesus, who He is and what He has done for us.

**ICEBREAKER:** I Was in Awe

Two summers ago my family travelled to the Rocky mountains in Alberta. One morning we climbed above Lake Louise to look out over the lake and Bow Valley. The sights took our breath away! What experience have you had that left you in awe? Maybe for you it was a time in nature, a beautiful work or art, or an exquisite meal. **Share your experience with the group!**

**STUDY:**

1. On Sunday, Pete shared several theological ideas about Jesus that we find in Colossians 1:15 - 23. Did you learn anything new from this? **What was a highlight for you from this teaching?**

READ: Colossians 1:15-23

This text is one of the clearest of Paul’s doctrine of Jesus in the Bible.

Paul was responding to reports that the church was mixed up with teachings that Jesus was not God. Through this text, Paul asserts that Jesus is fully Divine, and that He was not only involved in Creation, but also sustaining all things. And as if that were not powerful enough, Paul states that these things are not only BY Christ, but FOR Him. He is not only a tool of Creation, but the reason for it. Paul then gives a meditation on the hope of the Gospel for reconciling us to God, through our faith. It is for this hope that Paul declares himself a “servant” (or minister in some translations).

1. In vs. 15-23, Paul builds his case for who Jesus is. In vs. 15 we read, “He is the image of the invisible God …”. **Why is this truth about Jesus so important for us to know?**
2. Read back through verses 15-17. **What do you notice here about Jesus’ supremacy over creation?**
3. Jesus is supreme over all creation. This means He is in control. What is feeling out of control in your life right now? **How does this truth of Jesus being in control encourage you?**
4. “ … all things were created by him *and for him*.” All things are created for Jesus. **How should this shape the way we see the world?**
5. Read back through verses 18-20. **What do these verses teach us about Jesus’ supremacy over redemption?**
6. Jesus has redeemed your life. **What does this mean for you?**
7. Read back through verses 21-23. What does it mean to “continue in your faith …”?
8. “ … not moved from the hope held out in the gospel …”. What is the *hope* Paul is talking about here?
9. At the end of today’s reading, Paul declares himself to be a *servant* (or minister) of the Gospel. We should have this same attitude. God has raised you up to a be servant of the Gospel. **What does this mean for you?**

**EXPERIENCE GOD**

Listen:

Play the song “Living Hope” by (Phil Wickham). As the song plays, think about what it means to you that Jesus is your Living Hope.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9f2FXxDVO6w

Write it Down:

Col. 1:21-22 frames our stories in terms of who we “once were” apart from Christ and who we “now” are in Christ. Write down 4-5 things that described you spiritually, before Christ. Then draw a line through those words and write down what is true of you, in Christ, now. Here’s are some examples: Unloved - Beloved, Addict - Set free, Ruled by my flesh - Empowered by God’s Spirit, Empty - Made whole

Pray:

• Give praise to Jesus for the glorious actions and attributes mentioned.   
• Pray that Jesus would be big in your mind so that you think of Him rightly and intimately.

• Ask Jesus to be at the center of everything in your life, including things that seem out of control.

• Thank God for provision so that you can be holy, reconciled to Him, and at peace with Him.

• Ask God to keep you rooted and walking in the gospel daily.

**COLOSSIANS DEVOS:**

Each week of this series we’ll have 5 devotionals for you to read on your own.

Read the devos this week and notice how this habit enriches your walk with Jesus!

<https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/richer-than-you-think/>

**PRAY**

This week let’s pray for our local outreach initiative, The Big Serve. <https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/thebigserve/>

* Pray that our community would feel the impact of the hands and feet of Jesus as they serve in our community.
* Please pray that God would help us to acquire needed resources to allow for projects to take place
* Please pray for God to provide point-people for our Big Serve projects, and for volunteers to sign up! If you're interested in being a point person yourself, please get in touch with Sarah at sarah.geiger@creeksidechurch.ca :)