

Getting To Know You

1. What is your understanding of the Supremacy of Christ? Explain.
2. How does our culture view Jesus? What are some bias/limitations in their view/s?
3. Matt Chandler said, "The context of the gospel message is not our benefit or our salvation; the context of the gospel is the supremacy of Christ and the glory of God. This story of the good news is personal, but it is also cosmic". Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
4. Michael Spencer said, "The human experience of weakness is God's blueprint for calling attention to the supremacy of his Son. When miserably failing people continue to belong to, believe in, and worship Jesus, God is happy." Thoughts? Agree? Disagree?
5. Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper

1. In Colossians 1, Paul gives one of the most comprehensive pictures of Jesus Christ in all of scripture. How was Jesus being distorted in Colossae? How were they depicting Jesus? In what ways did they minimize/lessen Jesus? How is Jesus greater than the way He was being depicted? How is Jesus distorted today? Do you ever distort Jesus? Explain.

How does Paul depict Christ? How often do you meditate on the person of Jesus Christ? Do you view Him accurately? Explain

2. Paul starts by saying that Jesus is the image of the invisible God, what is Paul trying to communicate/describe here? What is the significance of this? What was historic Jewish thought on who God is? Can God be seen? How does Jesus change that?

He then states, He is the firstborn of all creation. Is Paul saying that Jesus was created? Explain. How is Jesus first in rank or order in creation? How does this counteract Gnosticism? Explain. When you hear God in flesh, what comes to mind? What is your understanding of this?

3. Who created the heavens and the earth and everything that is in them? How is Jesus sovereign over creation? How is Jesus sustaining or holding creation together? When you contemplate the depth of this, what comes to mind? How do you try to grasp the weight of this? Apart from Christ what would exist? How is the deity of Christ on full display here?

Is there anything in the created order that Jesus is not greater than? Is there anything that distorts your view of Christ? Explain. How is the power of Christ on display? Explain.

4. How is Jesus preeminent? What does Paul use to substantiate this? How did Jesus conquer death? How have we been reconciled? What did it cost Jesus? How does this refute any form of pluralism or syncretism? Explain.

How is Jesus over the church? What are the ramifications of this? How to observe this practically? Who is the author of the church? Explain.

How was the fullness of God on display in Jesus? Explain. What does accepting Jesus Christ do for us? What was our condition/position before Christ? After? What does this do for your soul?

5. How does Jesus anchor our beliefs? How does He impact our behavior? Explain. How is your life different because of Jesus? Explain.

What resonates with you most about this passage? How has your understanding of Christ changed, developed, grown, or been refreshed? Explain.

Growing Closer

1. Who is someone you shared the gospel with this week?
2. What have you been reading in your quiet times?
3. What has God been teaching you?