

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

COLOSSIANS 1:13-20

Lesson 3

REVIEW:

Colossians 1:9-12 supplies us with a valuable pattern for prayer. What did you learn from this pattern that has enriched your prayer life?

FIRST DAY:

Read and study Colossians 1:13-20 inductively. See last page.

SECOND DAY: Read Colossians 1:13,14

1. Colossians 1:13 continues Paul's thanksgiving *unto the Father*. Print this verse here. Highlight or underline what *the Father* has done for the believer.
 - a. The word *delivered* means "rescued from danger". As Christians, we have been *delivered* from the authority of satan and the powers of darkness. How does Titus 3:3 describe what we were like before we became believers? Use other versions if you like.
 - 1.) What does it mean to you to know that you have been *delivered*?
2. Notice the word *have* in Colossians 1:14. According to this verse, **when** did we receive *redemption* and *forgiveness*?
 - a. Define *forgiveness*.
3. Review the things for which Paul gave thanks to the Father from Colossians 1:12-14. Share with your group your thanksgiving for these things the Father has done for you.

*Redeemed how I love to proclaim it. Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.
Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child and forever I am.
- F. Crosby*

THIRD DAY: Read Colossians 1:15-17

1. These verses were written to combat the heretical teaching concerning Christ that was coming into the Colossian church. Some of the false teachers believed all matter was evil, therefore Christ could not have come to earth in human form. They maintained that God did not create the world, and that Christ was not THE Son of God but one of many ways to God, and that He was not the source of salvation. This passage corrects these false doctrines and substantiates the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ. How is Jesus described in Colossians 1:15?

a. *Image*, as used here, describes an exact replica. Jesus Christ manifested to us the *invisible God*. Many wonder what God is like. How does John 14:9 answer this question?

1.) In light of this verse how would you describe God?

2. *The firstborn of every creature* does not mean that Jesus is a created being. It means creation originated from Jesus and He is also *preeminent* (superior to) above creation. He is the Source as well as the Head. He is the Creator or Author of all things. How does John 1:1-3 support this?

3. Colossians 1:17 concludes Paul's sentence that began in verse 9. Write this verse phrase by phrase.

a. *Consist* means "held together". Think of the atom and how our Lord holds the atoms together so that the universe doesn't disintegrate. It is His hand that holds the stars in their courses, directs the planets in their orbits, and controls the laws of the universe. Fill in the blanks from Hebrews 1:3 to confirm this:

Who being the _____, and the express _____
_____, and upholding _____ by the _____ power, ...

b. Think of the times when you feel as if you are falling apart. How does His power hold you together?

FOURTH DAY: Read Colossians 1:18,19

1. Focus on the first phrase of Colossians 1:18a. What analogy does Paul use to describe Christ's relationship to the Church?
 - a. Think of the physical relationship of your head to your body. What insight does this give you concerning Christ and the Church?

2. Paul closes verse 18 with the words *that in all things He might have the preeminence*. Define the word *preeminence*. Use other versions for this if you desire. Add this to your vocabulary of praise.
 - a. Wouldn't it be glorious if the whole world recognized the *preeminence* of Christ now! What will everyone some day confess? Philippians 2:(9,10)11

 - b. God's purpose is *that in all things He might have the preeminence*. What things might you have in your life that prevent this from being a reality?

FIFTH DAY: Read Colossians 1:20

1. In Colossians 1:19 we discover *all the fulness dwells in Jesus Christ*. He alone is able to accomplish for us what no other could do. What has He done for us according to Colossians 1:20?
 - a. What does the word reconcile mean in the context of Colossians 1:20? Answer in your own words using Colossians 1:22,23 to help you.

2. In this verse notice the word *peace*, which is the result of reconciliation. Recount what it was like when you were not at *peace* with God.

3. Thoughtfully print Romans 5:1,2 phrase by phrase.

- a. Read Romans 5:10,11. Express your *joy* and *rejoicing* to the Lord for the *peace* that you now have because you have been *reconciled unto Him*. Do this through a song, a poem , or a sentence.

SIXTH DAY: Review Colossians 1:13-20

1. Note and comment on the frequent use of the word *all* in Colossians 1:13-20.

2. What does Colossians 1:13-20 reveal about Jesus Christ?

3. Write a one or two word response to these words from the lesson:

- a. *delivered*
- b. *translated*
- c. *created*
- d. *Head*
- e. *preeminence*
- f. *fulness*

4. How has this lesson increased your knowledge and appreciation of our Lord Jesus Christ?

*We can look up into space and realize that Christ made it.
We can survey history and know that Christ has been ruling and overruling it.
We can contemplate the Church and rejoice to know that Christ is its head,
its Lord, and its foundation.
Nothing has ever happened, is happening, or will happen, apart from Him.
- W.H. Griffith Thomas*

Colossians 1:13-20

VERSE

WHAT THE VERSE IS SAYING

- 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son:
- 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
- 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
- 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:
- 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.
- 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
- 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all the fullness dwell;
- 20 And having made peace through the blood of the cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Who:

When:

What:

Where:

Why:

How:

What does this passage mean?

How does it apply to you personally?