

WHO IS ONE PERSON IN YOUR LIFE
WHO NEEDS TO HEAR THE HOPE YOU
HAVE IN JESUS, AND WHAT'S ONE
SPECIFIC WAY YOU CAN BLESS THEM
THIS WEEK?...



WEEK 30 – THE SUPREMACY AND
SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST
AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

TODAY'S VERSES:

Colossians Chapters 1-4

Hebrews 1:3

John 14:9

John 1:1-2

Romans 8:1

2 Corinthians 12:9

Hebrews 10:14

2 Corinthians 5:17

Deuteronomy 23:15-16

Exodus 21:16

1 Timothy 1:10

Paul wrote to a flourishing church that false teachers were beginning to pull off course with a mixture of religious ideas, such as requiring circumcision and other strict disciplines, as well as angel worship. These teachers gave Jesus a high place, but not the supreme place. Paul's answer was simple: the Gospel plus anything is not the Gospel. Jesus is Christianity. He is the good news. Everything is centered in Him.

The theme of the whole letter is the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ, and because of who He is and what He has done, we are called to live as new creations — true change flows from accepting Christ, not earning His approval.

As you look back over our thirty-plus weeks in Colossians, what's one moment, verse, or idea that has stuck with you the most?

1. **The Supremacy of Christ.** Col 1:15 calls Jesus “the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.” He is not merely a prophet, priest, or king, but God Himself, the exact representation of the Father (Heb 1:3; John 14:9). “Firstborn” (prototokos) means first in importance, not first created — Jesus made all things (v.16) and holds all things together (v.17). He is preeminent in our worship, affections, objectives, and our church.

Read Colossians 1:15–17 aloud together. Jesus is described as the image of the invisible God and the firstborn over all creation. What difference does it make in daily life to know Jesus isn't just important, but preeminent?

2. **The Sufficiency of Christ.** Jesus reconciled us to God through His death, presenting us “holy and blameless and above reproach” (1:21–22). We are given more than a blank slate — we are given His righteousness. We are complete, lacking nothing (2:9–10). Nothing else is required for salvation: not rule-keeping, not rituals, not secret knowledge. Human traditions and empty philosophy were nailed to the cross with Christ (2:8, 14). Paul agonized that

believers would be knit together in love and reach the full riches of understanding, guarded against plausible-sounding arguments (2:1–4).

Read Colossians 2:9–10. We are described as “filled” in Christ. In what area of your life have you been tempted to add something to the Gospel, as if Jesus alone weren't enough? What would it look like to rest in His sufficiency instead?

3. **Our New Identity.** Chapter 3 turns to application: “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above.” We are new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17) who put off the old self — sexual immorality, anger, malice, slander, lying — and put on the new: compassion, kindness, humility, patience, and forgiveness, and above all, love, which “binds everything together in perfect harmony” (3:14).
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Read Colossians 3:12–14. Which of these is hardest for you to wear right now, and in which relationship(s)?

4. **Holy Relationships.** Because we have a new identity, our relationships change — husbands and wives, parents and children, all under the Lordship of Jesus as equals—a radical remix of the household codes of Paul's day. We were reminded that God neither created nor condoned slavery. We are called to walk in wisdom toward outsiders, letting our speech be “gracious, seasoned with salt” (4:6), remembering that we are a community, knit together by love, each with a purpose to serve in the body of Christ.
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We saw that Paul's household instructions placed husbands and wives, and parents and children, together under the Lordship of Jesus as equals — a radical remix for that culture. Is there a relationship in your life right now that needs to look more like this?
