

WEEK 3: COLOSSIANS 15-23



Group Time

ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See last page for directions)

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_____ _____

LOOK BACK:

Point: *Understanding God’s will is a growing cycle of knowledge and good works.*

- What did you learn by applying what God is teaching?

Question: What is meant by the phrase, “Garbage in, Garbage out?”

LOOK UP: Watch this week’s video on the 4G web page.

Recap: Paul tells us who Jesus is. Jesus is the *image of God* and the *firstborn of all creation*. As the image of God, in Jesus we can see and experience God’s mercy, compassion, and power.

In many Middle Eastern cultures, the roles of family members are defined. Typically, the eldest son (*firstborn*) is responsible for the family logistics and especially the dynamics of the family business. Referring to Jesus as the *firstborn of all creation* symbolizes Jesus’ authority over all things (Matthew 28:18). He not only reigns over all things created, He reigns over and is the head the Church – His body, us.

As such, Jesus’ purpose in coming is to reconcile us to the Father – to bring us into the family, and ergo, the family business. This in turn becomes our purpose: to declare this good news as it was declared to us.

LOOK IN: Discussion

Read Colossians 1:15-23.

- Reread verses 19-20 and replace the “his/him” with Jesus as appropriate and read it again. What does this say about the significance of the cross?
- Reread verse 21-23. Using a variety of versions, in verse 23, what does Paul call himself? What does this mean?

LOOK FORWARD: Application

Point: *Jesus is over all things – He offers us peace.*

Grounded and Steadfast in Faith!

Read Colossians 1:21-22.

Rewrite these two verses in your own words:

Share this with three people this week and record a synopsis of each of their responses:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Read Colossians 1:23a. Share this with the group next meeting.