

COLOSSIANS

A STUDY THROUGH PAUL'S LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS

WEEK 3

Colossians 1:15-23

PREMINENCE

Fathom Church exists to glorify God by making disciples who submit to the Word of God, respond in the worship of God, live in the community of God, and join on the Mission of God. This study guide should be used the week preceding the sermon it supplements. It is primarily intended to be used in a Fathom Church Discipleship Group. For more information about Fathom Discipleship Groups please visit <http://fathomchurch.org/groups/>

MAIN TEXT: Colossians 1:15-23

WORD OF GOD: *What is this text saying?*

1. The first six verses of this passage (vv. 15-20) are affectionately known as the Christ Hymn, because many believe it to be a song of worship sung by the early Church. Choose one attribute from these verses and explain in your own words what it means.
2. What is the main idea of vv. 21-23; how does it fit with the rest of these verses?

WORSHIP OF GOD: *How does this text affect my relationship with God?*

1. How does one attribute from the Christ Hymn (15-20) change how you view your relationship with God through Christ? (use either thinking or feeling language)
2. What does being 'alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds' mean, and give some examples, either from your own life or from the culture surrounding you?

COMMUNITY OF GOD: *How does this text affect our relationships with each other?*

1. Verse 18 says, 'And he [Christ] is the head of the body, the church.' How does this (indirectly) challenge us to interact with each other?
2. Christ desires to present us 'holy and blameless and above reproach before him' (v. 22). How do we as the community of God play a role in that?

MISSION OF GOD: *What action steps are needed in response to this text?*

1. How do we participate in the Mission of God by holding Christ preeminent in everything (v. 18)?
2. Verse 23 holds one of the only explicit action points of this passage: 'if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard.' What does this mean? What is one way that you can 'continue' in the faith, and how can we as your community support you in doing this?

