

Session 3: JOINT

Colossians 1 v 15-23—It's all about Jesus

Big idea:

Everything is all about Jesus—everything is by him, through him, and for him. Once we were separated from God because of sin, but because of Jesus we are united with him—so stand firm.

Guidance for questions:

Answers to the table: JESUS

1. No right or wrong answers at this stage, just what you'd honestly answer.
2. Jesus, God's Son. He shows us an image of God. We can't see God, but when we see Jesus we know what God is like.
3. "in him", "all things"
4. All things were created in him, visible and invisible, thrones, powers, authorities.
All things were created through him and for him! Jesus was there at creation.
5. For him.
6. In him all things hold together—he is crucial in the world now! He didn't just make it and then disappear off somewhere—he's involved every day in the world he created.
7. The church
8. Honesty is the key here. It could be a useful chat about how they see church and why!
9. He is the first one to be raised from the dead. He is the one with authority over death. He is the only one to have beaten the power of death.
10. He has proved his power over everything, even death. He's in all, over all, and everything is for him. He's done what no else could do—showing his amazing power.
11. God was pleased to have his fullness dwell in him. Jesus was fully God on earth. The things that he did, the things he had power over, all show us what God the Father is like. So when we look at Jesus, we see the invisible God.

12. To reconcile (bring together) all things, through Jesus' death, making peace. Jesus' work on earth meant that God and people could be reconciled, reunited—peace was made possible—because of who Jesus is. God was pleased (v19) to be reconciled with people he had made, through Jesus.

13. Alienated from God, and enemies in our mind, because of our evil behaviour. This is strong language:

- Alienated—completely cut off from our perfect heavenly Father. Separated from him and all his goodness
- Enemies—is a strong description. It's not just a minor break down, but on opposite sides.
- Evil behaviour—totally the opposite to how we're called to live by our loving and perfect Father.

14. Reconciled us, so that we are presented holy in his sight, and without blemish, free from accusation. We are reunited with God our creator, our sin and wrongdoing (our blemishes) are dealt with and we stand before Jesus as perfect, holy people!

15. Nothing! It's all done by Jesus—we just accept it!

Continue in our faith, established and firm (sure that Jesus has done this).

Not moving from the hope held out in the gospel.

We keep clinging onto the fact that Jesus has rescued us—it's all his work. There's nothing else we do!