



Sermon Growth Guide

July 14, 2024

All His Fullness

Colossians 1:15-23

Key Verse: Colossians 1:19

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him.

Big Idea: Jesus is at the center of all things and he is more than enough to carry us through difficulties of this world.

Foundations

This life is difficult. It's painful. It's overwhelming. It's not the way it was designed to be. As the challenges of this world beat against you, who will sustain you? Who will comfort you? Who will walk with you? Who will carry you through? Jesus. But who is Jesus? Who is he really? Is he a good luck charm? A wise guru? A legend? No. He is so much more.

Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the creator and sustainer of all things, and the head of the church. At the same time, he is Immanuel, God with us. You cannot make too much of Jesus. It is not possible to say too much. What is Jesus but the fullness of God made manifest to us? What are we but the emptiness of sin without him? All of God's fullness is pleased to dwell in Jesus Christ. When you put your faith in Jesus Christ, you are drawn into his fullness of life. You are connected with the source of all being, the fountain of God's goodness and grace.

Understanding God's Word

Together, read Colossians 1:15-23. What is the first song you remember learning about God? How has that shaped your understanding of Him? What are some modern-day misconceptions about Jesus that you have encountered? What do we learn about the nature of Jesus from Colossians 1:15-23? Which of these theological claims resonate most with you? Why do you think that is?

Applying God's Word

How does Jesus's being the head of the church shape your view of how churches (like First Pres) ought to be organized? How might the knowledge that Jesus has authority over all things bring comfort in today's political and social climate? How might that challenge the culture? When have you experienced Jesus's reconciling work in your life?

Witnessing God's Word

One of the earliest songs most Christian kids learn is, "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." Who in your life needs to hear that simple truth this week? How might you share this? (letter, text message, cook a meal, etc?)