

## Growth Group Reflection Questions—June 20-26

1. "Two, four, six, eight, who do you appreciate, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Yeah!

Fill in the blanks above with the name of someone you've come into contact with recently who deserves loud cheers. Share who it is and why you appreciate the person.

2. Dave said in his message that for two thousand years, the challengers of Christ haven't *denied* Jesus, they've simply tried to *dethrone* Him. Where do you see this dethroning of Jesus taking place in our society? Think about schools, the news media, and even (gasp!) some churches. Discuss.

3. Let's re-throne Jesus in our hearts by recognizing who He truly is. Take a deep breath and then slowly read the Apostle Paul's awe-inspiring description of Jesus in Colossians 1:15-18. Don't fly through it, but focus on every word. Then just praise Him, either by yourself or in your growth group.

4. Just think...

- a sun that can hold 1.3 million planets the size of Planet Earth,
  - a star with a diameter of 100 million miles (larger than the Earth's orbit around the sun),
  - a galaxy containing hundreds of billions of stars, and
- JESUS created them all!** ("For by him all things were created" –Col. 1:16).  
How do these bullet points shift the way that *you* typically think about Jesus?

5. Have you ever had anything created especially for you? What was it?

Follow up: If all things were created "*for him*" (Col. 1:16), that includes you and me. How conscious are you of this fact day by day? How can we more consistently remember that we exist for God, rather than God existing for us?

6. If Jesus is the Preeminent One – enjoying first place in our marriages, singleness, professions, worship, pleasures, money, conversations, pass times, etc., – what practical step can you take this week to demonstrate His supremacy over every area of your life?

7. Take some time to pray. Be sure to start by exalting Jesus. You might praise Him using the language of our sermon passage, Col. 1:15-18.



Santa Cruz Bible Church

Dave Michelson

June 20, 2010

### **e Believe** – Jesus Isn't Enough

*He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy.*

#### **Colossians 1:15 - 18**

#### **I. Four Answers To The Question, "Who Is Jesus?"**

**A. Jesus is the portrait of God \_\_\_\_\_ on display for the world to see.**

*He (Christ) is the image of the invisible God.*

#### **Colossians 1:15**

*The Word (Jesus) became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

#### **John 1:14**

*No one has ever seen God, but God the one and only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him (Jesus) known.*

#### **John 1:18**

... anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father.

**John 14:9**

**B. Jesus is the power by which everything \_\_\_\_\_  
was created by him and for him.**

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him.*

**Colossians 1:15 - 16**

*He is before all things and in Him all things hold together.*

**Colossians 1:17**

*"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"*

**John 8:58**

**1. By Christ all things were created \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.*

**Psalms 19:1**

*"Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through that has been made, so that they are without excuse."*

**Romans 1:20**

**2. All things were created Christ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**C. Jesus is the protector \_\_\_\_\_ that holds things together.**

*"In Him all things hold together."*

**Colossians 1:17**

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.*

**Hebrews 1:3**

**D. Jesus is the preeminent one \_\_\_\_\_ who takes first place over all.**

*And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy.*

**Colossians 1:18**

**Supremacy = to take first place, to be first, to be first above all others \_\_\_\_\_**