

What are some of the "Jesus Ands" you see in our culture today? How can you best detect them? Are all the "Jesus Ands" naturally bad things? If not, what elevates them to becoming problematic in the life of a Christian?



Describe a time in which you identified something in your life that was taking too much priority. What sign led you to realize it was becoming an issue? How did you adjust?

## 1. The Image of God in Creation (Colossians 1:15-16)



What does it tell you about God that He would go to such incredible lengths to reveal Himself to you?



Application: When you read the Gospels, how do the accounts of Jesus' physical life inspire you to live like Him? How does the gift of reading about the physical life of Christ help you understand the invisible God?

# 2. Christ Governs All of Creation and the Church (Colossians 1:17-18a)



During the moments in your life when everything seems to be spinning out of control, how does Paul's reminder that all of creation is maintained by Christ impact your anxiety, frustration, and distress?



Application: How have you seen the unifying impact of Christ's presence evident in your relationships with other believers? What part of discipleship should reconciliation and peacemaking have?

### 3. All God's Fullness in Christ (Colossians 1:18b-20)



What difference does it make when you read Scripture to know that part of the reason God was pleased to have all His fullness in Christ was so that Jesus could reconcile all things (including you) to Himself?



Application: How would you explain to someone what it means for Jesus to be "firstborn from the dead"? Why is it important to understand that description of Jesus?

#### Conclusion

What are some ways that you've witnessed people justify or rationalize things that would challenge Christ as the central figure in their worship? Have you noticed that being an intentional change, or something that happens gradually? If you are a Christian, how do you keep from succumbing to the subtle temptations to diminish Christ's centrality in your life?



Why do you think recognizing Christ's supremacy is so important for battling anxiety, fear, and frustration? How have you experienced that in your own life? Give an example.



Who in your life has best demonstrated a devotion to seeking reconciliation with others? How did that person confront the awkwardness of those difficult conversations? What part of their example have you implemented?

#### Daily Readings

- Monday Colossians 1:15-20
- Tuesday Hebrews 1:1-3
- Wednesday John 1:1-5

- Thursday - John 1:14-18 - Friday - John 14:9-11 - Saturday - John 8:25-29