

Saturday & Sunday, September 16 & 17, 2017 - "The Need for a Creed - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Colossians 1:15-23

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Letter to the church of Collosae
 - Great job of loving each other
 - But...practicing the idea of Jesus AND...
 - When you put Jesus first you are: 1)Discerning 2)Faithful 3)Productive 4)Maturing 5)Empowered 6)Joyful 7)Thankful
- The question is WHO IS JESUS?
 - We need to have a right understanding of who Jesus actually is
 - Colossians :15-23 = who Jesus is, all he has done and will do, for us and all of creation
- Verses 15-20 was probably a church hymn or a *creed* (would have been well know in the church)
 - Creed = a statement of a set of beliefs or aims that guide someone's actions
 - The Nicene creed and other's like it were born out of necessity (to communicate something clearly to guide actions)
 - **We all need a creed to come back to when our faith is being challenged**
- Jesus is the image of the invisible God: more clearly we see Jesus, more clearly we see God (an exact imprint of who God is)
- 7 "ALL" Statements
 - Jesus is ALL
 - 1) He rules over ALL creation
 - 2) He created ALL things
 - 3) ALL things are created for Him
 - 4) He is before ALL things
 - 5) In Him ALL things hold together
 - 6) In Him ALL the fullness of God was pleased to dwell
 - 7) Through Him to reconcile ALL things
- Everything in the entire cosmos is placed back in order because of Christ
- Jesus is indeed ALL
 - Our hope and our salvation
 - He has made peace
 - Apart from Him we can do nothing that matters

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Do you have any creeds in your life (biblical or otherwise) that govern your actions and life?
2. On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate your understanding of who Jesus is? Explain your rating
3. Of the seven ALL statements, which one stands out to you the most?
4. Of the seven ALL statements, which one is God calling you to understand more fully or to believe and depend on more fully?
5. Talk about a time in your life (maybe it's right now) when Jesus was ALL for you. What things/prayers/actions stood/stand out during that/this season?
6. How are you being called to make Jesus ALL in your life and ministry right now?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Ephesians 6 Tues: Philippians 1 Wed: Philippians 2 Thurs: Philippians 3 Fri: Philippians 4

****5 Minutes Reading/5 Minutes Writing/5 Minutes Praying**