



**“Centering on Jesus - Halfway There” - February 15, 2026**  
**Sermon by Pastor Tim Ghali**

## **Group Leader Notes**

At the halfway point of the year, it’s easy to feel like we’re just trying to make it to the finish line. But this message is an invitation to do more than survive—to recenter. In Colossians 1:15–23, we’re reminded of who Jesus really is: the One who created all things, the One who holds all things together, and the One who leads His church. If Jesus is truly the center, everything else—our stress, our opinions, our fears, our responsibilities—finds a better place. Pastor Tim speaks honestly about the emotional weight of our cultural moment, and how easy it is for Christians to get pulled into anxiety, outrage, and division. But the church is called to something different: unity in Christ, a deeper story, and a kingdom mission that doesn’t rise and fall with the news cycle. This message also prepares us for Lent and the practices that form us: Sabbath, fasting, and prayer. Not as a way to earn God’s love—but as a way to become more aware of it, and more grounded in it. If you feel off-center right now, this message is for you. May Jesus become central again—steady, present, and supreme.

**Main Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:15-20**

## **Group Discussion**

Begin in prayer before reading and discussing the text.

- In Colossians 1, Paul describes Jesus as supreme, and head of the church. What does it practically look like for Jesus to be “at the center” of your everyday life—not just in belief, but in priorities and decisions?
- Pastor Tim challenged us to examine what truly shapes us (news, social media, politics, cultural debates, etc.). What tends to pull your focus away from Jesus, and how can you intentionally re-center on Him?
- Pastor Tim also encouraged unity amid cultural and political tension. How can we hold strong convictions while still pursuing Christ-centered unity and love within the church?
- Sabbath, fasting, and prayer were presented as tools to help us re-center on Jesus. Which of these practices feels most challenging to you, and why? What might it look like to “try, fail, and try again” in that area?

- Pastor Tim asked: “What gives you freedom? What gives you hope? What gives you joy?” How do your honest answers to those questions reveal what is currently at the center of your life?

## ***Let's Pray***

<https://youtu.be/nikElfpqdSk?si=iQN9mghAPe1F4lfp>

