

Living the Celebration-**How you can bring the party to life!!!**

- a. Write here your highest and honest celebration of your description of Jesus based on what you have learned from this passage.

- b. Where have you been tempted to reduce Jesus to less than who He really is? Do hard times pressure you to be less willing to celebrate Jesus? Why

How can your actions better reveal your high view of Jesus?

What do you learn about God when you acknowledge Jesus as the “visible image of the invisible God”?

- c. What conversations have you had with your friends that display their misunderstanding about the real identity of Jesus? How could you help celebrate Jesus?

- d. Pray specifically for your ONE to see and believe the real Jesus through you.

Pray for Each Other *“Lord, help us live the Art of Celebration by celebrating Jesus in our daily life!!”*



Life Group
Sermon Study
Week of 5/20/18



Big Idea: In the book of Colossians, we discover that we were born to celebrate! Every culture, places feasts and celebrations at the very center of their lives. In this series, we will discover that when celebration becomes the centerpiece of our lives as Christ-followers, our faith deepens, our hope broadens, and love for the world expands. The more we celebrate, the more we become like Jesus.

COLOSSIANS: THE ART OF CELEBRATION**CELEBRATE JESUS!****Colossians 1:15-23****PLACING JESUS AT THE CENTER OF OUR CELEBRATIONS.**

^{1:15} *Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation ¹⁶ for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made all things we can see and the things we can't see – such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He existed before anything else, and His holds all creation together. ¹⁸ Christ is also the head of the Church, which is His body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So He is first in everything. ¹⁹ For God, in all His fullness, was pleased to live in Christ, ²⁰ and through Him God reconciled everything to Himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. ²¹ This includes you who were once far away from God. You were His enemies, separated from Him by your evil thoughts and actions. ²² Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in His physical body. As a result, He has brought you into His won presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before Him without a single fault.*

(Colossians 1:15-22, NLT)

Capture our Attention-

- a. Tell the group what your favorite song about Jesus is. Why has that song become your favorite?

- b. Share your Take-A-Way from last Sunday's sermon. What insight did God use to capture your attention? How are you trying to put that insight into practice in your daily life?

Discover The Spirit of Celebration-

Celebrating JESUS.

1. What titles and descriptions are given to Jesus in these verses, Colossians 1:15-20?

Which one of those would most make you grateful? Why?

2. Paul writes this description of Jesus while he is in prison in Rome (see Acts 28:17-31. How is it significant that Paul could declare these words even in that difficult position?

How can focusing on Jesus help you deal with your troubles?

3. Paul writes this description of Jesus intentionally for the benefit of the Christians in Colossae. Each phrase confronts an early attack on the nature and identity of Jesus Christ. What possible misconceptions of Jesus might Paul have been attempting to address in these verses (Col. 1:15-20)

What ways do people today seek to reduce the identity of Christ?

4. With a clear view of Jesus, now Paul defines the changes that have happened in those who believe in the real Jesus. Describe the old and new life. **Colossians 1:21-23 (see also 3:1-17).**

Old Life

New Life



5. What part did Jesus play in providing for the change in your relationship with God and new behavior? **Colossians 1:21-22**

What part does Paul say you play in this joy-filled transformation?