



Small Group Questions
Colossians Introduction

REMINDER: The purpose of our small groups at Cypress is to learn to love one another. We seek to do this as we: 1. Study the Bible together; 2. Discuss how to put it into practice; 3. Pray together; and 4. Live life together. Please use these questions only as they help you achieve this purpose. You will notice that these questions are structured according to the three basic principles of Bible study - observation, interpretation, and application.

COMMITMENT: As small groups begin in 2019, take a few minutes as a group and read through these five commitments. There are certain commitments we can make to each other that will open the way for us to learn to love one another. If you desire to join a Cypress small group, you are making the following five commitments to those in your small group –

1. I will make our weekly gatherings a high priority on my schedule
2. I will be on time, come prepared, and participate
3. I will honestly and transparently share and keep confidential what others share
4. I will look for opportunities to invite others who aren't yet following Jesus to join us
5. I will remain open to this small group multiplying (if the group gets too big to be small)

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Participant's Signature

1. **Read it:** Read Colossians. What was your take-away from Sunday's intro message to Colossians?

2. **Observation – What do you see?**
In Colossians, Paul counteracts the poisonous teachings that had befuddled the believers by giving them a mega-dosage of Christ (mentioned 76 times). Christ, as God's unique antidote, is all and in all – and He stands in the solitude of Himself. Look through Colossians and circle or underline each mention of "Christ". Why does Paul attempt to counteract the false teaching using this approach?

3. **Interpretation – What does it mean?**
Paul's purpose in Colossians is to 1) reinstate Christ in his true position and 2) reattach the believers to him. In Paul's writing, it's clear that he views Christ as the King. Read Colossians 1:15-18. Write down the words or phrases that denote a King or Lord.

4. **Application – How does this apply?**
Eric highlighted for us the difference between followers of Jesus as either lukewarm or on fire for Jesus. Is your view of Jesus too small for you to be on fire for him? Will you commit to viewing Jesus as Colossians shows him to be, and leave your previous views of him at the door? If you feel comfortable, share the different words that come to mind when you think of Jesus? Are these words fit for a King?