

Things to do during the week/at Life group

Please choose such questions as are useful for you.

1. What are your memories of either end of term reports/parents evenings either as a pupil or as a parent?
2. What do you think God's term report on you for your life so far would say?
What three words would you use to describe him/your relationship with him?
How has that image changed either recently or over the years?
Do you think it is important to have a correct image of Christ?
4. Do you find thinking about the stars/sand question in Genesis 22:17 helps you reflect on the majesty of God?
What else does help you?
5. How hard do you find it both to believe but also accept that you are unconditionally loved by God through Christ?
What might help you realise it afresh?
6. Can you think of a time in your life when your faith was under severe threat?
What were the circumstances and what helped you through it?
7. Read John 1:1-18 and compare with Colossians 1:15- 23
What strikes you as similar; what is different?
8. You might care to try a time of prayer by either googling or having some images of Christ in front of you.
Think how they make you feel and use it to stimulate prayer



Simon Loveless

Sunday 25th February 2018

Sermon Notes

Colossians 1-2:5

Meekness and Majesty

Colossians 1:-2:5

1. Colossae

a. The place

Modern day Western Turkey

Previously prosperous and important

Fallen on harder times

R H Lightfoot: "The most unimportant town to which Paul ever wrote a letter"

b. The people

Cosmopolitan mix of cultures and religions

Church – not founded by Paul

Mainly Gentile with Jewish influences

c. The problem

Specific problems unknown

Secular ideas and practices influencing the church

2. What image do we have of Christ?

- a. Balancing the "transcendent (creator God far bigger and remote from us) with the imminent" (the God who is near and accessible)
- b. "Hands that flung stars into space, tTo cruel nails surrendered"
Graham Kendrick

3. Reverence – verses 15-18

- a. Christ – the first born – "Prototahas" – supreme
- b. Genesis 22:17 – sand or stars?

- c. Psalm 8 – what is human kind that you are mindful of us?
- d. Seeking improved reverence – verses 15 -17

4. Revealed – verses 19-22

- a. Christmas cross carrying child
- b. Reminding ourselves of His reconciling love
- c. "You laid aside your majesty, gave up everything for me, Suffered at the hands of those you had created. You took all my guilt and shame when you died and rose again"
Noel Richards

5. Resolve – verses 21-23

- a. Resisting outside influences/interference (more later in the series)
- b. Working through the things that can knock our faith
- c. Paul's prison witness and writing
- d. Going back to basics
- e. Our secure status with God in Christ
- f. "In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light my strength my song
This cornerstone this solid ground,
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand"
S Townend/K Getty

