

**Date of Sermon:** August 16, 2020

**Topic of Sermon:** *Jesus is the Goal*

**Main Passage:** Colossians 1:5-6, 9-14

**BEFORE your group meeting:**

- **Participate in Worship** in-person or online to hear the sermon you will be discussing.
  - You can also catch-up on YouTube or at [https://www.foresthill.org/en/on\\_demand](https://www.foresthill.org/en/on_demand)
- **Encourage your group members** to watch the sermon and take a closer look at the Scripture that is used.
- **Look over the questions** provided below and think through your own responses.
- **Plan your meeting.** The Dig Deeper section is great to use in your group discussion (if there's time) or you can send it out to your group members after the meeting for their personal devotion time.
- **Pray for the Spirit** to use your group discussion to encourage dynamic life in Christ in each of you.

**What's the Big Idea?**

*To live like Jesus is the goal.*

*We want "Christian" to be what defines us not what describes us.*

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**Get Started**

- What comes to mind when you think of the word "Kingdom"? Is there a movie or book that you picture when you think about a king?
- What is a group or tribe that you belong to? It could be something like following a certain sports team or belonging to certain gym or being from a certain part of the country.

*If you have Story Cards and are meeting in-person, ask people which card best represents a group that they belong to.*

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**Dive into the Sermon**

- Becoming a citizen of the Kingdom of God is like becoming a citizen of a new country. You must **renounce** your old citizenship to **enter into** your new citizenship. When you became a Christian—a citizen of the Kingdom—what did you renounce or give up? What rights and privileges did you gain?
- Look at Colossians 1:12-13. What 3 things do you see that the Father does to make us citizens of the Kingdom? What does it say we have to do? How does that relate to **grace**?
- Here's a way to think about **religion** versus having a **relationship** with God, your loving Father: Religion says: *I messed up. Dad is going to kill me.* Relationship says: *I messed up. I better call Dad.* Are there places in your life where you still striving under religion? What would it look like to take those to God as the Father who loves you?

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**Dig Deeper** into a Scripture Passage

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*Use the HEAR Bible Reading Method to learn more what the Bible teaches us about being citizens of the Kingdom of God.*




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**Bible-Reading Tip:** Begin by asking God to open your eyes and hearts to His Word. In 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, Paul writes that the Spirit – who lives inside everyone who believes in Jesus – knows the depths of God and reveals Him to those who follow Jesus. So, always begin your time of reading the Bible with a prayer for Him to open your eyes and ears to what He will reveal. This doesn't mean that you will always have an emotional encounter or a special revelation, but you are acknowledging that He is that One through whom all wisdom is revealed.

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**Colossians: 1:5-6, 9-14**

You have already heard about this hope in the word of truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. It is bearing fruit and growing all over the world, just as it has among you since the day you heard it and came to truly appreciate God's grace.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God, <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. <sup>14</sup> In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**HEAR Bible Reading Method**

**HIGHLIGHT the passage**

- Underline any repeated words or key ideas you see.
- Note any questions you have about what you read.
- In 2-3 sentences, summarize what was said or what happened.

**EXPLAIN the passage**

- What was revealed about God? His character, desires, and/or actions?
- What was revealed about people? What we are/do or what we should be/do?

**APPLY the passage**

- From this reading, what truth do you need to embrace?
- By God's power, how will you THINK, SPEAK, or ACT differently based on what you read?

**RESPOND to the passage**

- Talk to God about what you've seen and learned in this passage.
- Ask Him to help you apply the truth to your life.