

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Colossians 1:15-20

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Colossians 1:15-20.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.

¹⁶ For by Him
all things were created,
both in the heavens and on earth,
visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions
or rulers or authorities –
all things have been created through Him and for Him.

¹⁷ He is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.

¹⁸ He is also head of the body, the church;
and He is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
so that
He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹ For it was the Father's good pleasure
for all the fullness to dwell in Him,
²⁰ and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself,
having made peace through the blood of His cross;
through Him, I say,
whether things on earth or things in heaven.

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

1. What contrasts or parallels do you notice between verses 15-17 and verses 18-20?
2. In what ways does Paul describe or portray Christ in this passage?
3. How do the descriptions of Christ relate to creation and reconciliation?
4. What repeated words or phrases stand out, and what might their repetition suggest?
5. According to verse 15, how is Christ described in relation to God and to creation?
6. What does the phrase “by Him all things were created” in verse 16 reveal about Christ’s role in creation?
7. How many distinct realms or categories of created things are listed in verse 16?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

❖ Day 2

Read Colossians 1:15-20 again.

8. In verse 17, what two statements are made about Christ's relationship to "all things"?

9. What does "in Him all things hold together" in verse 17 teach about Christ's ongoing involvement with creation?

10. According to verse 18, what two titles or roles does Christ hold in relation to the church and to resurrection?

11. According to verse 19, what exactly dwells in Christ, and how completely? (ref. Colossians 2:9)

12. In verse 20, what action does God carry out "through Him," and what is the scope of that action? Compare with the wording in Philippians 2:10 as you formulate your answer.

13. What means or instrument of reconciliation is specified in verse 20?

14. How does the phrase "having made peace through the blood of His cross" describe the means of reconciliation?

