

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

James 1:1-12

Message Notes
September 16, 2018

Universal Reconciliation
Colossians 1:15-23
Lindsay Kennedy

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read Colossians 1:15-23. What appear to be the key themes in this passage?
2. “Firstborn” in Col 1:15 does not mean “created first,” but “preeminent.” How and why is Christ preeminent over “all things? (Col 1:16)”
3. Read Ephesians 6:10-12. How do these verses help clarify who or what the “rulers” and “authorities” are that are created by Christ?
4. By what means did God bring reconciliation (Col 1:19-20)?
5. What are the “all things” that were reconciled by Jesus (Col 1:19-20)? How does Col 1:16 help us find the answer?
6. Read Ephesians 1:7-10. What is God’s plan in regards to how all things relate to Christ?
7. Read Colossians 2:15.
 - a. First, how does this relate to Jesus’ reconciliation of all things? In other words, how has he reconciled “the powers?”
 - b. Second, by what means has God overcome “the powers” (the answer is in Col 2:15)
8. Read Zechariah 3:1-2. What is Satan doing? Now read Revelation 12:7-11. What name is Satan given in verse 10? Why can he not perform this role anymore?
9. Read Romans 8:32-39. What hope do we have in light of Jesus’ sacrifice for us?
10. In light of the above questions, what standing do we have before God?
11. What confidence can we have in light of God disarming Satan?
12. How does the truth of Christ reconciling “all things” give you hope for the present and the future?
13. What purpose does God have in reconciling us (Col 1:22)? What does God require of reconciled believers (Col 1:23)? What has he done *for* you and what is he asking *from* you?