

## Who Is First In Your Life

Last week we looked at: Jesus at the Center of our lives

This week we look at: Jesus at the Top of our lives

How do we LIVE with Jesus in “first place” in our lives?

### Colossians 1:13-14

#### I. THANK HIM FOR MY SALVATION

4 thanksgivings that transform our lives

1. He RESCUED us.
2. He TRANSLATED us.
3. He REDEEMED us.
4. He has FORGIVEN us.

### Colossians 1:15-18

#### II. BELIEVE THE TRUTH ABOUT HIM

The Colossians faced a heresy that threatened their view of who Jesus really is.

What threatens your view?

1. He is GOD
2. He is FIRSTBORN
3. He is CREATOR

4. He is OWNER

5. He is SUSTAINER

6. He is HEAD OF THE BODY (THE CHURCH)

7. He is THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH

8. He is FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD (OUR HOPE)

Firstborn is an indication of a position or honor rather than an actual order of birth. There are many times in the Old Testament where the right of the first born is given to another. (Isaac and Ishmael, Esau and Jacob, Rueben and Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim.)

*“The first man came from the dust of the earth. The second man came from heaven.” 1 Cor. 15:47 (NCV)*

*“I will also appoint him my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth.” Ps. 89:27 (NIV)*

We know we’ve recognized the truth about Jesus when it changes our LIVES

### Colossians 1:19-20

In order to live in commitment to the truth about Jesus we all must recognize and refuse the temptation to LESSEN HIM.

In His relationship to God--the fullness DWELLS IN HIM

In His relationship to creation-- things reconciled THROUGH CHRIST

Two simple questions with amazing answers!

What was God reconciling?

How did God reconcile?

### **Colossians 1:21-23**

### **III. TRUST HIM WITH YOUR FUTURE**

Paul uses three striking words to describe our condition prior to the cross

1. **ALIENATED**
2. **ENEMIES**
3. **EVIL**

Then he uses three words to express our condition after the cross.

1. **HOLY**
2. **SEPERATED**
3. **FREE**

What is the big “IF” in verse 23? Is it about my eternal salvation or my eternal reward?

### **3 WORDS THAT ENABLE US TO GIVE Jesus HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE... FIRST PLACE!**

- **THANKS**
- **TRUTH**
- **TRUST**