



## Because of Jesus

**Colossians 1:15-23 (NRSV)** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;<sup>15</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.<sup>16</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.<sup>17</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.<sup>18</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,<sup>19</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Jesus is IN, THROUGH, AND FOR creation and redemption.

The reconciling work of Jesus Christ is both INDIVIDUAL and COSMIC.

**You who once were...**

**You who are now...**

ESTRANGED

RECONCILED

HOSTILE IN MIND

HOLY

DOERS OF EVIL DEEDS

BLAMELESS and IRREPROACHABLE

Continue a life of FAITHFULNESS.

Be a HOPE-FILLED person.

## Additional Notes...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## scriptures that relate

Monday: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Wednesday: Philippians 3:13-21

Friday: John 1:1-15

Tuesday: Philippians 3:1-14

Thursday: Romans 10:5-15

Saturday: Ephesians 1:3

## small groups—talk it over

1. In what ways do you see the work of Jesus being in, for and through all of creation and redemption?
2. How can you live into your true identity of being "reconciled", "holy", "blameless" and "irreproachable"?
3. What is the difference between being hopeful and hope-filled? Does this change your outlook on life?

## jeff alexander's prayer requests

**Monday:** Pray for safe travels for members of our church during the summer months.

**Tuesday:** Pray that people will be moved by the Spirit to recommit their lives to Christ.

**Wednesday:** Pray for our Children's & Youth Ministries that our students will grow closer to God.

**Thursday:** Pray for people in our congregation who are fighting addictions.

**Friday:** Pray for family and friends as they support and encourage those who fight addictions.

**Saturday:** Pray for those who are sick that they will sense the comfort of the Holy Spirit.