



## **SOLUS CHRISTUS | In Christ Alone • Week #4 • Sept. 30/ Oct. 1**

Text: | Timothy 2:5-6; Colossians 1: 13-20; Heb 1:1-3a

### **Open:**

- What would you say is the one thing people need to thrive?
- What came to your mind when Pastor Dan invited you to ponder what we mean when we say that our faith and life is rooted in Christ alone? How did this pondering make you feel? (anxious, confused, curious, at rest/confident)

### **Discussion:**

- **Through Christ Alone we and the world exist:** Colossians 1: 15-18

Referring to his son studying quantum physics, Pastor Dan stated, “That life IS in the first place, and HOLDS together the way it does, and morphs into what it yet can be, practically sends shivers of worship down Cole’s spine. I say worship, because behind all these forces, Cole sees a Face...”

- Have you ever seen or interacted with a part of or place in creation that has brought you to this place of awe, wonder and worship? Can you share this experience with us?
- How does creation influence the way you connect with God?

- **Through Christ Alone we discover God’s character:** Hebrews. 1:1-3a

Hebrews tells us that God had previously spoken to us through prophets, but now has spoken to us through Jesus. “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being...”

- From what you know of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) what do you see of God’s character in Jesus’ life and ministry?

Pastor Dan said, “In Christ alone, we see that God is not just great, but supremely GOOD.”

- Do you believe this? How have you known and experienced the goodness of God this past week?
- How do your changing circumstances shape your view of God versus how does the fixed truth of the Cross shape your view of God? What does this say of ourselves?

- **Through Christ Alone is the power for redemption:** | Timothy 2:5-6

The Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus gave himself as a ransom for all. Martin Luther said: “The cross alone is our theology.”

Pastor Dan referenced C.S. Lewis’ *The Screwtape Letters*, stating “the piercing analysis of Evil’s strategy, where a Chief Demon recommends to his protégé that if he wants to wreck God’s redemptive work in the





life of someone, he should do this, “Get that person thinking of Christ AND something else... Eventually, they’ll rarely think of Christ.”

- By how you live your life, are you Christ+ or Christ alone? How does this shape your relationship with Christ, yourself and others?

Pastor Dan concluded with such a strong image of some people drawing “so close to Jesus that they start developing HIS mind toward politics, the news, finances, church, and other spheres of daily life. In time, they start walking through life not with an entitlement mindset but with a sense of wonder that we and this world exist at all... They get to know the character of Christ so intimately that he rubs off on them and they start moving through their families and workplaces like Jesus would. Eventually, they are so filled with Christ’s redeeming power that they are shedding their sins, walking through life without guilt or anxiety, and unafraid of death.”

- What excites you about being one of these people described in that conclusion? What makes you uncomfortable?
- What’s the hardest thing living into the way of life described?
- What are you doing to live into this way of life for yourself? Where do you need help?

### Practice for the Week:

- **Scripture Reading (with a focus on Jesus):** Journey through the Gospel of Mark this week, paying special attention to Jesus. See the beauty of who Jesus is. Hear what Jesus would say to you to encourage, and challenge you with to come closer to him. Then share what you discover with someone else.
- On FaceBook or Instagram, share some photos of you and/or your small group learning something or trying something new. Share it with us with the #solaseries.

### Resources:

- *Moments with the Savior: Experience Jesus, the kindness in his face, the forgiveness in his eyes, and the power in his hand*, by Ken Gire
- *Jesus Manifesto: restoring the supremacy and sovereignty of Jesus Christ*, by Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola

#### We would love your feedback!

If you have any thoughts, questions, comments, ideas on how to make these study guides more meaningful for you and your group please let us know.

*We would also LOVE to hear how God is using these study guides in your lives.*

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