



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS EVENT

# TREASURED

"YOU ARE ALTOGETHER BEAUTIFUL, MY LOVE... THERE IS NO FLAW IN YOU." SONG OF SOLOMON 4:7

DECEMBER 8, 2023



5:30 PM • \$30



# SUNDAY SOCIAL

Community • Food • Baptisms

**NOVEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>**  
After the 11am service  
on the patio



# REACHING THE CULTURE

# GO!

JESUS - THE HYPOCENTER OF HUMAN HISTORY  
COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

WEEK 8

**Jesus's incarnation, life, death and resurrection  
Radiate through history in every direction.**

As Thomas Friedman pointed out in his classic book *The World is Flat*, the world has become increasingly decentralized through technology. There is an equalizing of nations and a rise of industry centers worldwide. For now, the epicenter of film is still Hollywood, the epicenter of technology is still Silicon Valley, and the epicenter of finance is still New York City. But mark my words; this will change in the coming years.

Jesus, on the other hand, is more than an epicenter. Let me explain. I was in the Bay Area in 1989 during the Loma Prieta earthquake, applying for a job, when the building began to shake, and the manager started screaming uncontrollably. I told him to get under the table. And I got the job. The epicenter of that earthquake was 71 miles away from San Francisco. But the epicenter wasn't the source. An epicenter is a geographical center on the earth's surface directly above the hypocenter or the real focus of the earthquake. In Loma Prieta's case, that was 12 miles below the surface. So, an earthquake's real focus or center isn't the epicenter; it's the hypocenter. All of the power flows from that point and radiates out. That's what Jesus is. He is the hypocenter of human history. His life and ministry weren't one of many major events in world history. He is the singular historical event radiating life-transforming power out in every direction.

## **(10 min) OPENING PRAYER**

Ask God to permeate your time with His presence. Pray that God would uniquely enable you and your group to see, experience, and know Jesus in a more excellent way than you ever have.

## **(25 min) TIME TO CONSIDER**

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week's lesson, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Read through Colossians 1:15-20 two or three times out loud, taking turns reading. Share key things that emerge in your mind and heart about Jesus. Paul presents Christ as the Creator God and Supreme. Is He supreme in your life? In what ways, yes or no? What changes can you make?
2. Time is moving towards one goal, the eternal focus on God and the Lamb in the New Jerusalem (Read Revelation 22:1-5). How does this reality impact your life, your daily attitude, and the decisions you make?
3. At the hypocenter of human history is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. This One life radiates with power sufficient to transform and change anyone anytime. How has Christ changed your life? Share what Jesus is doing right now in you. What role has faith played in your experience?

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES: ***Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.***

**EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER:** *Pray for the next 15-20 minutes as a Life Group. Ask God to guide you in this time of prayer. God's church needs to be centralized on the person of Christ and His power to transform people. As you're praying, ask Jesus to show you how this can become a reality for you, your life group, and your church. His power still radiates today; we need to become more desperate to rely on and experience it.*

## **(5 min) LIVE IT**

Be intentional about centering each day this week around the presence of Christ in your life. Begin your day in prayer. Read through a gospel account. Have various moments during the day where you stop activities and pray. Close your day in prayerful reflection of Christ's faithfulness. Ask for God's help to build this as a daily habit.