



Dgroup Discussion Guide for September 23, 2018 **Jesus is Supreme - Worship Him**

Scripture: John 17:3

This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

WHY WE SHOULD WE WORSHIP JESUS

God desires that we may have eternal life and it is through knowing Jesus that we may receive it (John 17:3). And when we get to know Jesus more intimately, the byproduct is worship. Worship is our response to who He is, what He has done and what He has promised to do.

No religion in the world demands total allegiance to its founder except for Christianity. Remove Buddha from Buddhism, it still has its teachings. Remove Mohammed from Islam, it still has Allah. But if we remove Jesus from Christianity, everything will collapse. This is Jesus not only teaches ethics, but also to believe in Him if we want to have eternal life.

If we do not know Jesus intimately, we will not worship Him properly because the quality of our worship is proportional to our understanding of who Jesus is.

WHY IS JESUS SUPREME?

Jesus is supreme over salvation. (Colossians 1:13-14)

In Christ, we have redemption and forgiveness of sin. During the time of Jesus, redemption refers to the payment needed for the freedom of a slave. This means that by knowing Jesus we acknowledge that we were slaves to sin, but by His grace, He has set us free. Jesus, through His death at the cross, paid the penalty of our sins with His blood. To redeem us, He gave His life for our lives. He did not just set us free but He also forgave us from all our sins; He cancelled all our debts to sin and by His resurrection, He gave us eternal life.

When we know that Jesus is supreme over our salvation, our natural response is no less than to worship Him with joy, gratitude and thanksgiving.

Jesus is supreme over creation. (Colossians 1:15-17)

When we look at creation, we will surely be awed by the magnificence of our Creator. However, it is through the Word will we know deeply the character of God in all His creation. That Word is Jesus (John 1:1-4, 14). Jesus was in the beginning of creation with the Father and the Holy Spirit. We may have a hard time understanding the tri-unity of God, but by looking at Jesus we are able to see the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of God's nature (Hebrews 1:3). Jesus is the exact manifestation of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15; John 1:18).

Jesus is also the "first born" of all creation. This does not mean that Jesus is a created being. The idiomatic use of term "first born" in the Bible refers to a status of importance rather than being born first in the family. (Exodus 4:22; Psalm 89:27). By saying Jesus is first born, it means He is supreme in all creation. His being first born is about His superior

rank and not a sequence of being created. That is, it is by Him, through Him, and for Him that all things were created (Colossians 1:16). We were created by God and for God. If we do not know that this is the purpose of our existence, we will find our life empty.

Jesus is before all things, and in Him all things are held together (Colossians 1:17). He is not just the Creator but also the Sustainer of all creation. It is mind-blowing to comprehend that our solar system is just a small part of the Milky Way Galaxy which is also just one of the billions of galaxies in the universe, and that each galaxy is made up of trillions of stars. Science cannot explain how everything in the universe has precise designs, measures, positions and frequencies of motions and rotations and that a slightest change in its design and motion can totally destroy life on earth. Scientists who were skeptics, some atheists, studied the universe, marveled at their findings, and ended up believing that there must be a Supreme Being who holds all these things together with precision and order.

When we see Jesus, the Creator and Sustainer of all creation, so powerfully holding all things together, we will all be in awe on our knees to worship Him.

Jesus is supreme over church. (Colossians 1:18)

Jesus is the Head of the church. The church is not building but the body of believers, the called-out chosen people of God. Each one of us has a function in the Body of Christ, and the only Leader of which is Jesus. We become members of the church when we give our lives to Jesus as Lord and Savior. As members of the church we honor and worship Jesus because He is the Head, the Leader, and the Source. If we know Jesus is supreme, people will see no other central attraction in our lives but Him alone.

HOW DO WE WORSHIP JESUS?

Everything about God is in Jesus. He has the fullness of God's presence. And so if we desire to worship God we need to worship Jesus. To worship Jesus means that He is central and preeminent in all areas of our lives. If we do not know that Jesus is supreme then He will only be in the periphery of our lives.

Worship is when we give Jesus His true worth, acknowledging Him to be the Lord of all things and of everything in our lives. The opposite of worship is sin. When we do not worship God, we put ourselves in the center and that's a sin. Every time we sin, we dethrone Jesus. We must remember that on the Day of Judgment we will all stand before Him.

But when we intimately know that Jesus is supreme, we will love Him, follow Him, and worship Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Who is Jesus to you? Is He Creator and Sustainer of your life? Why or why not?
2. What are the things you can do to intentionally please Jesus?
3. Can people see Jesus as central in your life? What are you willing to do make Jesus really the center in your life?