OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who*, *What*, *Where*, *When*, *How*, *Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) What truth about Christ in Colossians 1:15-19 stands out to you? What questions does it raise? How does it encourage you/give you hope?

b) What do we learn about God from our understanding of Christ in Col. 1:15-19?

2) What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Read verse 20. Have you been reconciled to God? Are you at peace with him? Can you explain your answer?

b) Re-read Colossians 1:21-22. How are we described "before and after" Christ? Do you struggle to accept verse 21 (you were alienated, hostile, and evil) or verse 22 (you are holy and blameless) more? Why?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) In the sermon we said that we need nothing beyond what we already have in Christ. Is this hard for you to accept? Is there anything that you are tempted to add to Christ and his work?

APPLICATION

a) Read verse 23. How would you explain "continuing in the faith" to someone? Can you identify any ways that your faith has been misplaced? Do you need to transfer your trust away from a "profession of faith," or a "re-dedication" and back onto Christ alone?

b) Christ is the "preeminent" or supreme lord of all (v18). Is there an area of your heart that you need to submit to his lordship?

FIGHTER VERSES: Habakkuk 3:17-19.

PRAYER

Praise God for Christ! Pray through some of the statements about Jesus and express your gratitude to God for these truths about your king and savior.

Repent of any ways that you are still holding on to control over your own life. Ask God to help you find your purpose and meaning in Christ alone.