

Questions for Reflection and Discussion
Colossians 1:15-20
Soli Deo Gloria

Getting Started

As we conclude our series on the *Five Solas* of the Protestant Reformation, we come to *Soli Deo Gloria* – to the glory of God alone. In Colossians 1:15-20, look for reasons why we should live *soli Deo Gloria*.

Digging In

1. **Read Col 1:15-20.** What does it mean that Christ is the *image of the invisible God*? (Cf. John 1:1,14,18; 14:9; Hebrews 1:3)
2. In v. 15 Paul says that Christ is the *firstborn over all creation*? *Firstborn* is often used to mean “first in rank or honor.” How does this apply to Christ’s position with regard to creation?
3. What do you think it means that Christ *is before all things* and *holds everything together*? (v. 17)
4. What does it mean that God reconciled all things to himself? (v. 20)
5. How did God do this? What was the price of peace?
6. Read Col 1:15-20 again, slowly. Review your answers to the first five questions. How does this magnificent passage build a powerful case for living to the glory of God?



Getting Personal

- What are some ways in which people live for their own glory?
- Think for a moment about what you say and do – what you post on social media. In what ways are you trying to build up your own reputation rather than God’s?
- What steps can we take to live more for the glory of God than for our own glory? Give some specific examples.
- What is God calling you to do? What changes do you need to make to live *soli Deo Gloria*? Let’s ask God to help us sincerely desire – above all – to live for his glory.