

New Creation

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Broken Creation | Colossians 1:15-23

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S U M M A R Y

This past weekend we continued our series on New Creation, looking at the Christ hymn in Colossians 1 and considering what it means to be far away and separated from God. We went back to the Tower of Babel and considered how our attempt to cover the gaps on our own lead to brokenness and pain. We discovered together how Jesus invites us into an experience of new creation *now* that doesn't involve striving for goodness.

R E A D

Colossians 1:15-23 | Genesis 11:1-9

Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.

D I S C U S S

1. What modern equivalents to the Tower of Babel story do you see in our lives and culture?
2. What thoughts or feelings arose when death (as referred to in the fall narrative) was defined as *the loss of a relationship of intimacy with God, replaced by alienation from God*? Do you agree or disagree with this interpretation? Why?

Sheleena talked about the idea that sin is an *overstepping of divinely imposed limits* which challenges our feeling that *limitations are curses*.

3. How do you relate to this framing of sin?
4. What is your reaction to the idea that God created limits intended to keep us within His goodness and provision?
5. What are some ways that you tend to step outside of these limits and what is the fruit in your life?

We talked about the impact of constantly wrestling with the question, "*am I good or am I bad?*"

6. How does this question show up in your life and heart?
7. In what ways do you strive for some sort of legacy or way of helping to satisfy the question of goodness?
8. How does judgement of other people's good or evil show up in your life?

Read Acts 2:1-12.

9. How does the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost compare and contrast to the Tower of Babel and speak to God's redemptive work in the world?

R E S P O N D

Christ offers a way back to goodness that is about where we are and not what we do. Re-read the Christ hymn. What barriers or lies do you do you have to surrender in order to return to the source of goodness?

Spend some time sharing and praying assurances of mercy over one another as Spirit leads you.

P R A Y

Take time to pray the prayer in Colossians 1:9-14 for one another in your group, and then together pray Colossians 1:15-20 in praise of Jesus.