Subversive Allegiance

<u>Intro:</u> Paul continues his challenge of the Roman Empire by writing a poem that directly subverts the reign of Caesar. Paul highlights Jesus' mighty place on the throne of the cosmos and his headship of the Church, urging the Colossians to align their lives with Jesus over and above Emperor Nero.

Q. Can you think of a time when your vision was impared? Or if you wear glasses or contact lenses can you reflect on a time when you went from squinting to full clear sight?

The Apostle Paul receives a report from Epaphras regarding the church in Colosse, a church that Paul didn't start nor had he visited. In this report it would seem that the Christians were being infiltrated with heresy that Jesus is less than God.

Across 4 chapters and 95 versus the Apostle Paul has one main purpose which is the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ.

READ Colossians 1:15-24

- Q. What are some ways that our culture pressures us to conform?
- Q. From verses 15-16 what are the key theological attributes of Jesus?

Q When Paul Says, all things were created by him and for him v16. What does this say about who we are and why we are on earth?

READ Colossians V17-18

- Q. There is nothing that exists without Jesus. Discuss?
- Q. Why do you feel that it is vital to know, understand and experience the supremacy of Christ in today's culture?
- Q. How would you go telling a not yet Christian that Jesus holds all things together?