

JESUS, BE THE CENTRE

*Jesus, be the centre; be my source; be my light, Jesus
Jesus, be the centre; be my hope; be my song, Jesus
Be the fire in my heart; be the wind in these sails;
Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus
Jesus, be my vision; be my path; be my guide, Jesus*

You probably know that a noun is a word that's a person, place, or thing. You may or may not know that a preposition is a word that tells the relationship between two words, such as *at, by, with, from, around* and *in regard to*.

Read **Colossians 1:15-20** and underline all of the prepositions (or make note of them on this paper) that describe Christ's relationship to other things and discuss the ones you find.

This song asks Jesus to be the centre (the British spelling of "center") of our lives. How does this passage help us understand why that is his rightful place?

List the TEN MOST IMPORTANT people and things in your life.

Re-read Colossians 1:17.

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

What does it mean that Jesus is "before" all things?

What people and which things in your life are the most difficult to view this way? Why?

TO PONDER DURING THIS SONG – "ALL PLAY": Which position do you feel you need most from Jesus right now: source, light, hope, song, fire, wind, reason for living, vision, path, or guide? After you've thought about it, share your answers with each other.

LEADER'S GUIDE:

I'd recommend doing an interesting **object lesson** at the beginning. This song lists many things that Jesus can be in our lives:

- the centre
- my source
- my light
- my hope
- my song
- the fire in my heart
- the wind in these sails
- the reason that I live
- my vision
- my path
- my guide

Before you start, ask the students: **Who “is” Jesus to you? In other words, what does He give to you, or what role does He play in your life? What are some of the names for Jesus used in scripture or worship songs that you connect with most?**

Give them half a minute to think about this before they say anything. Don't coach them – give them one example, and then sit back. See what they just say off the top of their heads.

Then compare their answers with the words used in this song. Which ones were the same?

Then start the study... I'd recommend **running off the first sheet** of this lesson and giving a sheet to each student. Heavily emphasize that you want them to keep the handouts. Perhaps make **folders** or give them **binders** to hang onto these sheets. Ask them to bring the folder or binder each week to small group. Maybe even include a couple of blank sheets for prayer requests.

I'd also recommend **getting this song on a CD** and playing it in small group when it comes at the appropriate time of the study. It breaks up the talking, and they will “hear” the words much more clearly by focusing on it. Go to www.worshiptogether.com if you don't know where to find it.

Contact Melanie Pearlman (melanie_pearlman@hotmail.com) if you have further questions about this study, or Kelly Soifer if you have questions about the tips in the Leader's Guide.

P.S. “All Play” is a question that each small group member is expected to answer.