

COLOSSIANS

CHRIST IS ALL WE NEED

WEEK OF 10/26/25

SEEK THE THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE

COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

Silence (1-2 minutes)

Sit silently together as a group for a minute as a way to center your heart and invite the Holy Spirit to help you listen and receive God's Word.

Opening Prayer (2-3 minutes)

Read: Colossians 3:1–11

Devotional (30-45 minutes)

If you give up something to pursue another thing, you're undoubtedly going to go after this new something with active persistence. The same is true when you turn your life over to Christ. Christians who pursue a godly life give up their old, ungodly ways for new, fulfilling Christ-like ways. But how? That's what Paul addresses in chapters 3 and 4 of Colossians: how to pursue God, or the **Big Idea, which is to seek the things of heaven, kill the old self, and clothe yourself with the new self.**

1. What activity or hobby have you pursued with your whole heart, and why?

Colossians 3:1 | Our baptism points to Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. We were buried with Him through baptism into death so that we can be raised from the dead to walk in His ways (Romans 6:4). To *walk*, not stand still; to chase it, track it, seize it, hold it, in a manner that reflects our new self, which, like Christ, sits at the right hand of God. This powerful union of Christ to God becomes ours when we seek the truths in God's Word and live as if we know God's watching (because He is!).

2. What does it mean to sit at the right hand of God? In a tool such as <https://www.stepbible.org>, click on the words "right hand" to read more about the Greek word *dexios*.

Colossians 3:5–9 | In these verses, Paul lists a plethora of sins, particularly sins of desire and sins of disunity. These worldly ways keep the old self alive and cause suffering in our relationship with God and others. Fortunately, our relationship with Christ helps us overcome sinful practices. He becomes the strength in our weakness. He provides the joy in the hard

times. He works for those who love Him. Our new reality—our new identity, purpose, and understanding of God and the world—helps us to kill our old self.

3. If Paul were speaking to you today, what instructions would he give you for living a godly life?
4. What ways have you changed from your old self to your new self? How did this change your outlook on life? How did you feel God was moving in your life?

Colossians 3:11 | When Paul lists Gentile and Jews, the circumcised and the uncircumcised, barbarians, Scythians, slaves and free in the same sentence, it's not a random list but rather a makeup of the church at Colossae—a church that Paul recognized as having a firm faith in Christ (*Colossians 2:5*). Whether descending from Abraham through Isaac, or coming from a nomadic tribe of savages, or existing in different social classes, a people who had faith in God came together to say no to sin and yes to the good things. This uniting of unique, separate groups can only happen because Christ is in all of us, and when we clothe ourselves in His righteousness, God clothes us in His compassion, humility, peace, and joy.

5. If you look up the word *unity* in a thesaurus, you'll come across synonyms such as harmony, balance, and order. You'll also see antonyms such as disunity, violence, and imbalance. What does this tell us about the church at Colossae and about Christianity as a whole?
6. Consider how to change your life for more harmony, balance, and order.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us to set our minds on things that are above. Thank you that our lives are hidden with Christ in God. Give us the grace to put to death what is earthly in us: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk. Thank you that because of Christ, we are being renewed after the image of our Creator. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Share Prayer Requests (10-15 minutes)