

WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

THE NEW SELF: WEEK 7

COLOSSIANS JOURNAL: Remind everyone to bring their journal to group.

ICEBREAKER: Share a moment from your past that, looking back, makes you laugh or cringe. How does that moment contrast with who you are now in Christ?

CONTEXT: In Colossians 3:12-17, Paul encourages believers to live out their new identity in Christ by embodying virtues such as compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. This new life is rooted in love and unity, reflecting the peace and word of Christ in all actions and words.

BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

OVERVIEW: Colossians aim is to deepen our understanding and desire to surrender to the reality of Christ's impact on every aspect of our lives.

Watch this 9 minute video from the Bible Project as a group or for individual study. (It is a little long so you may need to divide it into sections.)

 [Book of Colossians Summary: A Com...](#)

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 3:12-17

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put

on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

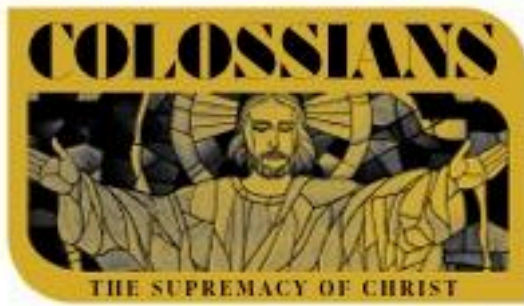
STARTER QUESTIONS

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon over the weekend and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

What does this passage (Colossians 3:1-11) teach us about God, who He is, and His character?

SCRIPTURE READING

An early church tradition was to stand during the reading of God's Word. Standing is a way to show respect and honor to God and His Word. Have everyone who is able to stand as the group reads Colossians 3:12-17. One person starts by reading 1 verse followed by the next person reading 1 verse until you complete the passage.



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Pastor James began his sermon focussing on our gratitude to God that we are not who we used to be. What are actions and words we can express to God that reflect our gratitude?

How does our passage (vs. 12-17) build upon the earlier verses in Colossians 3 about putting off the old self and putting on the new self?

List the virtues God wants us to “put on” in verses 12-13. Share a few you have seen growth in your own life. Share one you struggle with that you sense God is calling you to put into practice.

How does the beginning of verse 12 help us build our true identity in Christ? Why do you think it is hard for us to believe and live like we are “God’s chosen ones holy and beloved”?

Read verse 14. How does love (agape) “bind everything together in perfect harmony”?

In Col. 3:15-17, Paul’s primary concern for the Colossian church is unity. If our church body obeyed the 3 “Let the...” commands, what impact would that have on our church and our communities?

How does the communal aspect of teaching and admonishing one another contribute to spiritual growth (v. 16)?

What is the significance of thanksgiving in this passage (vv. 15-17)?

Colossians 3:12-17 is very relational and was written to the church community in Colossae and for us today. What is God teaching you personally in this passage in relation to your Connect Group? What is He teaching your Connect Group through these verses?

PRAYER

Get into groups of 3-6 and share praises, answered prayers and prayer requests. Each person prays for the person on their left.

Heavenly Father, thank you for choosing us, loving us, and setting us apart for your service. Help us to put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Teach us to bear with one another and forgive as you have forgiven us. Let your peace rule in our hearts and your word dwell in us richly. May everything we do, in word or deed, be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to you through Him. Amen.

Come back together as a large group and pray our community prayer in our journals.

Our prayer is that we would be people filled with the knowledge of God, strengthened by the power of God, and marked by the joy of God that we might live lives worthy and pleasing to Him. Amen!

Celebrate any BLESS updates.