



Group Guide

Pursue Christ: Put on the New

March 30, 2025

Main Passage: Colossians 3:12-17

Theological Theme

Everything we do should point back to Jesus.

Introduction

- ❓ What other examples of unusual kindness do you know from the Bible?
- ❓ How has God shown us kindness? How does He continue to do so?

1. Put on the New (Colossians 3:12-14)

In our text last week, Paul instructed his readers to put to death sinful things that belong to our earthly nature. These desires of the flesh pull us away from the Lord, create discord, and disrupt unity in the church. Focusing on earthly things is problematic for any believers, but especially so for the Colossians as they sought to guard against false teaching.

- ❓ How would you define the character traits Paul listed in these verses?
- ❓ What does it mean for us to put on these things, and why would this be important?
- ❓ Application: Consider the list of characteristics Paul laid out in this section of text. How can we actively cultivate these virtues in our everyday lives?

2. The Peace of Christ (Colossians 3:15-16)

Peace, a gift from the Lord, is an important concept in the Bible. It is cultivated in all believers thanks to the presence of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). In John 16:33, Jesus taught that we could have peace in Him despite any suffering.

- ❓ What does it look like to have “the peace of Christ” (v. 15)?

- ❓ What does it mean for “the word of Christ to dwell richly among” believers (v. 16)?
- ❓ Application: Examine your current quiet time. How could you further seek letting God’s Word dwell richly in your life?

3. In His Name (Colossians 3:17)

Verse 17 brings the final imperative of our text: “do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus” (v. 17). Paul gave a similar instruction in 1 Corinthians 10:31, “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” Everything we do should be with Jesus in mind. When we make decisions, we should consider Him—what He has called us to do, how He is speaking to us, what will glorify Him.

- ❓ What does “in word or in deed” mean (v. 17)? How does that apply to our lives broadly?
- ❓ How do we give thanks like Paul described in verse 17?
- ❓ Application: What are some ways we could intentionally seek to live more for Jesus in our words and deeds over the next month?

Conclusion

- ❓ In today’s text, Paul instructed us to bear with one another. What does “holding back” in a Godly way look like for us today?
- ❓ How did Jesus embody these good traits in His earthly ministry? How can we imitate Him? How can we encourage and support one another in this as a group?
- ❓ How does living as Paul taught in today’s passage give us opportunities to tell others about Jesus?