



Christ Over Moral Character (Part 2)

Colossians 3:12-17

Study Guide

Introduction

The key to spiritual transformation, is not just to “put off” bad things, but to replace them or “put on” the good. There is intentionality written all over this passage with action verbs.

1. Read Colossians 3:12-14. Notice, before you can “clothe yourself” in loving attributes, you have to see yourself as “dearly loved” by God. Do you currently feel that God loves you? What indicators do you see of His love for you?

2. Once you affirm how much God loves you, Paul challenges us to willingly “clothe” ourselves in loving attributes. What does it look like to be intentional in this? Share a story or an illustration of one or more of these attributes.

Compassion

Kindness

Humility

Gentleness

Patience

3. Another loving attribute to “put on” is forgiveness. According to Colossians 3:13, share of an incident where you were faced with a choice to forgive someone. How did that go? What was hard and what was helpful?

4. Once you have actively “clothed yourself” in love, Paul encourages us to “let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts...”. The word “rule” means, to let Jesus be the umpire; let Him decide on outcomes. Read Colossians 3:15-17. Discuss the three things that will help you to allow His peace to rule in your heart:

a. Be Thankful (v. 15b)- How does thankfulness help us be at peace?

b. Be Immersed (v. 16)- How do Bible study, admonishment and worship help you be at peace?

c. Be Purposeful (v. 17)- How does reframing your motives help you be at peace?
Discuss.

Application

Take a few moments to pray for God to help you to see His love for you. Then ask Him to help you to love others well. Finally take a few moments to ask Jesus to give you peace in your heart with a situation that is weighing on you.

Colossians 3:12-17

Theme: Christ over Moral Character (Part 2)

Matt. 12:43-45a

⁴³ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. ⁴⁴ Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there, ...

1. Accept God's Love (v. 12a)

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, ...

2. Clothe Yourself in Love (v. 12b-14)

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

2. Clothe Yourself in Love (v. 12b-14)

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

2. Clothe Yourself in Love (v. 12b-14)

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

3. Let God's Peace Rule your Heart (v. 15-17)

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- a. Be Thankful
- b. Be Immersed
- c. Be Purposeful