

## Living the Christian Life

When I first moved here after living my entire life elsewhere/adjustments.

I still don't know how to get around that well.

(New restaurants, new activities, new friends, different landscapes and temperatures, different regional getaways, etc.) **Never be the same/everything became brand new/return but not where I belong**

Colossians 3:9-11

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

- We have put off the old self and put on the new self. (The new self must get oriented to its new surroundings, and the old needs to fade away.)
- The new self has the Spirit of God residing within to remind of the things that no longer belong.
- The Holy Spirit leads us to represent Christ.
- Note the last sentence of verse 11- there is **no longer the fleshly divisions and characteristics, but a brand-new self, that is citizens with others like them.**

1. What is changed when we become a Christian? (Look at verse 12)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

- a. **We are chosen by God.** (This means he calls; we surrender) This is who the chosen are.

Jesus died for all, but those that answer the call become the ones He chooses to carry out His Great Commission.

Ephesians 1:4-5 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

- It was God's plan from the beginning for us to belong to Him. (Then those who don't answer the call, "depart from me worker of iniquity for I never knew you". Matt. 7:23)
- We surrendered, and He is our Lord. (He knows who the "whosoever wills" are.)

2 Timothy 2:19 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

b. **We are to be set apart-** In a marriage, it is supposed to last. Not to run off to another. In our relationship with God, we belong to Him, and He chooses us.

- The new **self no longer breaks the law, just God's heart.**

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

- c. **He forgives our trespasses- 12-14** – Last week we looked at the fleshly list, and this week we see the Spirit filled list.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 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. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

- If we are offended by another in our church- forgive/like we have been forgiven! (Jesus saved us, we are filled with God's Spirit, forgiveness is in our DNA)
- We can now really put on these qualities!
- d. **We can truly put on love-** (This is ultimate manifestation of Christian maturity)
- Love in the sense of serving- It brings forth peace.
- Outside of this peace, we lose track of who we are and we go astray.
- This is not peace through ignoring! (Peace of God's leading in a situation.)

Today- many say "toxic" and depart. Whereas, we have the ability to be lead by God's Spirit, meaning we are under His leadership.

**How can we know God's peace?** When we obey His will/His leadership! (When we stray, we are outside of His peace!)

**How do I know that I am outside of His will?** No peace!

Colossians 3:15–16 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> 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.

- Do you see this? When we dwell on God's Word, praise and thankfulness flow. We might even sing!
- This is a church he speaks to. These things are a natural outflow of a Spirit led church!

**How can we tell if we are a Spirit led church?** Look at 12-16!

Colossians 3:12–16 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> 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.

Conclusion

In Christ, we do as **He leads!** We **forgive**. Peace **rules in our** lives. Dwell on **His Words**. Christ is **our life!**

Colossians 3:17 (ESV)

<sup>17</sup> 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.

We want to dwell or be at home constantly with Christ. (Home is a refuge.)  
Some find it hard to be at church, in the Word, walk in fellowship with each other!

Filled with His Spirit, Filled with His Word!

John 15:3–8 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.