



Talk together about the glory of God's kingdom. –Psalm 145:11
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. –Joshua 22:5

Questions for Reflection or Discussion

- **Read Colossians 3:1-4.** What is the significance of the word "if" in v. 1? Have you been "raised with Christ"? How do you know?

Although the word "then" ("if...then") is omitted in v. 1b, what then are those who've been raised up with Christ to seek (v. 1b) and to set their minds on (v. 2)? What are we **not** to set our minds on?

What reason/rationale does v. 3 give for the commands of v. 1-2?

Are you "dead" (v. 3a)? How do you know?

Believers are "dead" (v. 3a)—and yet we live! Read Galatians 2:20.

Who is our life (v. 4a)? **Where** is our life (v. 3b)?

- **Read Colossians 3:5-10.** What is the "therefore" (v. 5a) there for? (Hint: V. 3-4 tell us.)

Verse 7 says that we **once "walked in"** certain things, **when we were "living in them"**. All of those things are listed in v. 5b. What are they?

Who will tell about when you "walked in" immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire or greed, because it was your "life"?

"Since" (v. 9) gives the reason/rationale for changing our behavior. What is it?

An "indicative" is a statement of reality. An "imperative" is a command.

Make a list of the indicatives and imperatives in v. 5-10. What do you observe?

What have you "put off" (v. 9)? What have you "put on" (v. 10)? How do you see that in your life?

- **Read Colossians 3:11-13.** What's the logical connection between v. 11 and v. 3?

According to v. 12, believers are "God's _____", "_____" and "_____". How does this description make all of the imperatives in this passage possible and reasonable?

We are to forgive everyone **"just as"** the Lord has forgiven us (v. 13b). **How** has he forgiven us?

- **Read Colossians 3:14-17.** What's the most important thing for believers to do ("above all", v. 14)?

V. 15 & 16 tell us to "let" something happen. Why do you think those things aren't just commanded?

Why do you think gratitude plays such a key role in the Christian life (v. 16c & 17b)?

“New Life in Christ: Practical Exhortations for Every Christian” Colossians 3:1-17

- 1 So if you have been raised with Christ,
seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.
- 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
- 5 Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature:
sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.
- 6 Because of these, God’s wrath is coming upon the disobedient,
- 7 and you once walked in these things when you were living in them.
- 8 But now, put away all the following:
anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth.
- 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old self with its practices
- 10 and have put on the new self.
You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator.
- 11 In Christ there is not
Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free;
but Christ is all and in all.
- 12 Therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and dearly loved,
put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
- 13 bearing with one another and forgiving one another if anyone has a grievance against another.
Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you are also to forgive.
- 14 Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.
- 15 And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts.
And be thankful.
- 16 Let the word of Christ dwell richly among you,
in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another
through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.
- 17 And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

"Five Question Bible Study" (see below) *is useful for studying any topic. Let's use it to explore the "Imago Dei"—the image of God—in mankind...*

Monday—Read Genesis 1. How is mankind different from the rest of creation?

Tuesday—Read Genesis 3. What happened to mankind as a result of the fall?

Wednesday—Read Genesis 9:1-7. This passage comes after the fall. Is man *still* "in God's image"?

Thursday—Read 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Colossians 1:15. Who **now** bears God's image perfectly?

Friday—Read Romans 8:28-30. Who **shall bear** God's image perfectly?

Saturday—Read SECTION 13 (On Marriage, Sexuality and Gender) in TCC's Statement of Faith. (At tcc.org, click on "About", then "What We Believe", then "Statement of Faith" at the bottom of the page.)

Five Question Bible Study

Bible Text: _____ Date: _____



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]