

## **Colossians 3:12-14**

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

Which one of these Christlike characteristics is the hardest for you to “clothe yourself” with? Focus on that characteristic this week and intentionally put it on each morning. Study these and other verses about the characteristic that you struggle with the most this week.

### **Compassion**

Ephesians 4:32 — “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Lamentations 3:22-23 — “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

Zechariah 7:9 — “This is what the Lord Almighty said: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.’”

### **Kindness**

Ephesians 4:32 — “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

Proverbs 11:17 — “Those who are kind benefit themselves, but the cruel bring ruin on themselves.”

Micah 6:8 — “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

## **Humility**

Philippians 2:3 — “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.”

James 4:10 — “Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”

1 Peter 5:5 — “All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, ‘God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.’”

## **Gentleness**

Galatians 5:22-23 — “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Ephesians 4:2 — “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”

Proverbs 15:1 — “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

## **Patience**

Romans 12:12 — “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

James 5:8 — “You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near.”

Proverbs 14:29 — “Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly.”

## **Forgiveness**

Matthew 6:14 — “For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.”

Mark 11:25 — “And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

Ephesians 4:32 — “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

## **Love**

John 13:34-35 — “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 — “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

1 John 4:19 — “We love because he first loved us.”