



Sermon Guide: Leaving the dead life behind - 04/19/26

Text(s): Colossians 3:5-11

Big Idea: *In Christ, the dead life has no claim on you...so give it no place in you.*

Summary of the Sermon - Because we are united to Christ, the old, dead life no longer defines us, so we are called to put to death sinful desires and put away harmful patterns that don't belong to who we are now. Instead of trying to earn a new identity, we live from the new life we already have in Christ, allowing that reality to shape how we think, speak, and act. As we depend on Him, God is actively renewing us day by day into the image of Jesus, forming a new life where Christ is everything.

Discussion Questions

1. When you hear that “the old life has no claim on you,” what do you think that means for how you live day-to-day?
2. Why is it so important to get the order of Col 3:1-4 and Col 3:5-11 right? What are some of the potential outcomes of living with an earning mindset instead of seeing our behavior as a response to our spiritual reality?
3. Since Paul connects sinful actions to deeper desires of the heart, how can you begin addressing those at the root level?
4. Do you really believe that through God's power you can put to death deep seated desires and patterns? This could be a good place for testimonies of transformation as time allows.
5. Which of the “relational sins” (like anger, gossip, or lying) seem to have the most staying power in your life and why do you think that is?
6. How do you personally distinguish between **conviction** and **shame**, and how have you experienced each in your walk with Christ?
7. The message described spiritual growth as a combination of **discipline and dependence**. What might it look like for you to grow in both areas this week?
8. Colossians 3:11 says, “*Christ is all, and in all.*” What would it practically look like for Christ to be “everything” in your identity and daily life?