

Rules for Holy Living
Colossians 3:12-17

Rule #1: You are _____, _____, and _____.

Colossians 3:12

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

Chosen = God _____ a relationship with you.

Holy = God has a _____ for you.

Loved = God's love is not casual but _____

Rule #2: Forgiveness is the _____ of Christ's forgiveness.

Colossians 3:13

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Echo: a sound caused by the reflection of sound waves from the surface back to the listener
a close parallel or repetition of an idea, feeling, style, or event

World says to cancel them, but God says to forgive them.

Forgiveness is unlocking the door to set someone free and realizing you were the prisoner.

Three levels of forgiveness as the Lord has forgiven us:

Level 1: Lord, will you _____ them as you have _____ me

Level 2: Lord, will you help _____ them as you have _____ me

Level 3: Lord, will you _____ them as you have _____ me

Positive Consequences When You Forgive others:

1. _____

5. _____

2. _____

6. _____

3. _____

7. _____

4. _____

8. _____

Rule #3: If _____ and _____ aren't ruling, something else is

Colossians 3:14-15

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

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

Peace with _____ Col 1:20

Peace with _____ Col 3:15

Peace with _____ Phil 4:7

Rule #4: Dwelling in the _____ results in worship and thankfulness

Colossians 3:16

“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”

Rule #5: Let the name of Christ _____ your name

Colossians 3:17

“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”

Ground every application in the grace of the gospel, not in human performance

Food For Thought/Home Group Questions

1. What difference does it make in your daily life to believe that God *chose* you rather than you choosing Him first?
2. God’s love is described as *lavish*, not casual—how does that challenge the way you view yourself or others who seem hard to love?
3. In what ways does the world’s idea of “canceling” someone contrast with Christ’s call to forgive?
4. How might holding onto resentment make *you* the prisoner, as the quote suggests?
5. What does it mean for *love* to “bind everything together in perfect unity”? What happens when love isn’t central?
6. What role does *thankfulness* play in maintaining peace and unity in your heart and relationships?
7. What does it mean for the *word of Christ* to “dwell richly” in you? What are some practical ways to cultivate that richness?
8. Why is teaching and admonishing “one another” an important part of this verse—what does that say about the communal nature of faith?
9. What does it mean to do *everything* “in the name of the Lord Jesus”? How is that different from doing things *for* Jesus?
10. How might letting Christ’s name define your words and deeds transform the way others experience you?
11. What might your relationships look like if you applied all five rules daily?