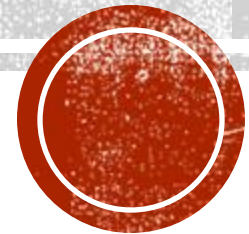


COLOSSIANS: COMPLETE IN CHRIST

CHAPTER 3:12-17 SO, PUT ON!*



(*CONTINUED)

GOOD MORNING!

1. Have you ever had a guest just crack open your fridge and start helping himself without asking? How would you feel about that?
2. Your identity as someone who lives in your house influences your refrigerator behavior. What's another non-biblical way that identity guides your behavior?



RECAP: PUT OFF

Last week we discussed the beginning of Colossians “Put On” passage.

1. Did any of you find yourself in a position to exercise compassion or kindness this week?
2. (Frank’s story of kindness with Nilah)
3. Why is it sometimes hard to do so, even when we have the opportunity?



LET'S READ IT: 3:12 — PICKING UP WITH GENTLENESS

Let's pick up where we left off!

12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so must you do also.

14 In addition to all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ, to which you were indeed called in one body, rule in your hearts; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.





- Strength controlled for the good of others. “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart” in contrast to anger, rivalry, and self assertion
- How does it bless you when someone treats you with gentleness?
- What opportunities do you think God is giving you to grown in gentleness towards someone else?
- What examples do have of Christ being gentle?



- tapeinophrosýnē ("lowliness, humility") is an inside-out virtue produced by comparing ourselves to the Lord (rather than to others). This brings behavior into alignment with this inner revelation to keep one from being self-exalting (self-determining, self-inflated)
- How have you found God brings about humility in your life?
- Why do you think we are so resistant to humility?
- Do you have anyone in your immediate circle that shows humility that you admire? How so?



PATIENCE

- “If in English we had an adjective 'long-tempered' as a counterpart to 'short-tempered,' then makrothymia could be called the quality of being 'long-tempered'”
- What identity or positional truth do we have that helps us be long-tempered?
- What opportunities do you think God is giving you to grown in patience towards someone else?



- Humility, Gentleness, and Patience are often needed in a parenting relationship, although we can resist developing them as parents. As parents we are put upon with constant demands, resisted, and sometimes sinned against.
- Outside of parenting, has God put you in a situation where you are put upon by people who make demands of you such that God is working to develop these things?
- Is patience different from “bearing with one another” or are they the same, or does one explain the other?



- Derived from the noun “grace” (charis)... pictures a voluntary, benevolent act that flows from favor rather than obligation. The term gathers under one umbrella the concepts of (1) freely bestowing a gift, (2) remitting a debt or penalty, and (3) graciously granting a request. In every occurrence the accent falls on the generosity of the giver, not the worthiness of the recipient.
- Why are we reminded of a positional truth again in this phrase?
- What are some costly things you’ve personally forgiven, or had to forgive?
- Why do we struggle to forgive?



1. God experiences the full range of emotions, from jealousy and anger to peace and love. What is so special about love?
2. What enables us to see reason in giving up our own rights to bless others?
3. When does it “make sense” to love?