



GREATEST OF ALL TIME

GOAT

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GOAT, PART 4: YOUR NEW LIFE

As we continue on in our study of the book of Colossians and learning that Jesus truly is the Greatest of All Time, Paul is calling on the believers in Colossae to do something new. Staying where they've been—living the same ole way—is no longer an option. He says it's time to live the NEW LIFE they have in Christ.

BIG IDEA: When Christ is all that matters, you are living Your new life!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you need to feel like a 'new person,' what outfit do you like to wear?
2. When you buy clothes, are you a name-brand buyer? A bargain hunter? Style conscious? Spouse conscious? Quality Conscious? You could care less what others think?
3. *With your Bible or the Bible App, read Colossians 3:1-4.*

1 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. Colossians 3:1-4 (NLT)

4. In the final two chapters of Colossians, Paul moved into the practical application of the doctrines he had been teaching. After all, it does little good if Christians declare and defend the truth, but fail to demonstrate it in their lives. Notice that Paul opens this section with the word "Since" (*verse 1*). What is the significance of that word choice? Why is it of key importance to the Colossian Christians in particular? Why is it important for us today?
5. Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, what should your life look like now?
6. What are we to set our sights on? (*verse 1*) What are we to set our minds on? (*verse 2*)
7. What will our lives look like if we set our minds on the things of earth?
8. What does it mean that our lives are "hidden in Christ"? (*verse 3*)
9. What happens when Christ "who is your life, is revealed to the world"? (*verse 4*)
10. *With your Bible or the Bible App, read Colossians 3:5-10.*

5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. 6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. 7 You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. 8 But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. 9 Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. 10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. Colossians 3:5-10 (NLT)

11. What are the things of earth that we are to "put to death" in our lives? (*verse 5*)
12. When did we do these things? When did we act this way? (*verse 7*)



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13. What do verses 8 and 9 tell us that it is time to "get rid of" and not be a part of? How are these things harmful to us? To others? To the church?
14. What are we to do instead of these things? (verse 10) How do we become like Him?
15. *With your Bible or the Bible App, read Colossians 3:11.*

11 In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. Colossians 3:11 (NLT)

16. In verse 11 we see the qualifications of "this new life". What are they? If the Bible says that we can come just as we are, why do you think we so often hold back in living our new life?
17. In the end, what is "all that matters"?
18. *With your Bible or the Bible App, read Colossians 3:12-17.*

12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. 16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. 17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:12-17 (NLT)

19. Since God chose you to be holy people, what are the things we are to 'clothe' ourselves with? (verse 12)
20. What are the things we are to make allowances for? (verse 13)
21. Why is it so important for us to forgive others? (verse 13) Can you share of a time when it has been difficult for you to forgive someone? How do you feel about that now in light of verse 13?
22. "Above all" we are to clothe ourselves in what? What are some other places in the Bible that speak about the importance of love? (1 Corinthians 13, Luke 10: 25-37, John 15:13)
23. What should rule in our hearts? (verse 15) Why is peace so important in our lives?
24. Verses 16 -17 give us the final steps in living our New Life in Christ? What are we told to do? What are some of the ways we accomplish these things?

MOVING FORWARD

Choose one verse or phrase from Colossians 3:1–17 that stands out to you. This could be something you're intrigued by, something that makes you uncomfortable, something that puzzles you, something that resonates with you, or just something you want to examine further. Write that here. What strikes you about this verse?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

We get all too used to our 'earthly nature' of clothing. Which aspect of your old nature and your old self feels like a comfortable old t-shirt to you now? Why is it difficult to shed or remove? What piece of Jesus' new wardrobe would you like to replace it?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Colossians 3:10 (NLT)

